**LOST HIKER LEARNS HIS LESSON**
MAN RECALLS NORTH SHORE ORDEAL {page 8}

# CHEAP CHIC
## VERSACE FOR H&M: WORTH YOUR MONEY? {page 25}

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# Bloody display causes stir

**Store gets heat from residents over Halloween window** **Owners not taking it down**

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Kathy Parsons stands outside the Mintage vintage-clothing store on Commercial Drive yesterday in protest of its Halloween-themed window display.

A local vintage-clothing store's Halloween-themed window display is brewing up controversy.

Residents near Commercial Drive are complaining that the bloody bedroom scene at Mintage is too much and depicts violence against women.

Magdalene Pay said the display is a complete bloodbath and overkill.

"(My seven-year-old daughter) started to shake when she went past it," Pay said. "It's just not appropriate for children."

The display shows a bed with sheets soaked in blood, as well as blood splattered on the wall and the glass window.

Co-owners Skylar Stock and Carly Lenarduzzi said they've heard both complaints and praises.

"There are no mannequins, no body parts, nothing," Stock said. "It's left to the imagination. It's Halloween. That's kind of what the mystery of Halloween is."

Lenarduzzi added they have no plans to take the display down.

"It's just Halloween — nothing more, nothing less," she said.

Kathy Parsons, who spent more than two hours outside the store holding a sign protesting the display, said she spoke to at least 45 people who shared the same sentiment.

"The store is putting it as a display for Halloween, but Halloween is more about silliness, fun or fake-scary," said Parsons. "For vulnerable people like children, refugees and families of women from the Downtown Eastside that have been missing and murdered, it's totally inappropriate."

However, others didn't see anything wrong with it.

"I don't think that this is actually worth coming out and having signs up for," said Connor Leclair, who stopped and talked to Parsons outside the store. "I just personally think that it's a really good Halloween display and if someone finds offence to that, then maybe they should avoid walking up and down the street."

Scene

## Where to get your scare on

Halloween haunts abound this weekend in Vancouver {page 20}

## On the market

Metro Spaces looks at what's new in local housing {pages 28-34}

## No more drama for Clarkson

American Idol alum gets her way without a fight on new album {page 22}

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JEFF HODSON/METRO FILE

▶ Ernie Crey speaks to reporters in September 2010 after the government named Wally Oppal commissioner of the Missing Women Inquiry. DNA from Crey's sister Dawn was found at the farm of serial killer Robert Pickton.

# Victim's daughter asks 'why'

**Family feels prejudice led to the mishandling of her death ◐ Brother of woman killed by serial killer Robert Pickton marks sombre birthday ◐ Inquiry looking into investigations**

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

The daughter of an aboriginal woman whose death remains unsolved called for answers at the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry yesterday.

Angela Williams disappeared from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside in 2001.

Her dead body was discovered along the side of a road in Surrey Dec. 13 of that year.

Surrey RCMP immediately told the family that Williams likely died from a drug overdose, despite the fact an autopsy found only trace amounts of cocaine in the 30-year-old's system.

A second autopsy found Williams had signs of strangulation around her neck, but the family wasn't told until 2007 that investigators believe she may have been killed.

Williams' 21-year-old daughter, Ashley Smith, asked the inquiry why her death wasn't properly investigated from the beginning.

"Was it because she was native, or because everyone kept saying 'drug user' and 'prostitute'?" she asked commissioner Wally Oppal. "I just want to find out what happened to her."

Williams was reported missing in Vancouver and was on file with the Missing Women's Task Force — which was investigating the disappearances of other women from the DTES — but the inquiry learned that the unit had almost no contact with Surrey RCMP regarding Williams' death.

**"I want to know why no one cared enough for someone to take this case seriously."**
**ASHLEY SMITH, DAUGHTER OF ANGELA WILLIAMS**

Ernie Crey, brother of Dawn Crey, also questioned the diligence and attitudes of police investigators.

Dawn, whose DNA was found on serial killer Robert Pickton's farm, would have celebrated her 53rd birthday yesterday.

"That's the burden we bear, that if the police had acted more forthrightly, that if they had proceeded with charges against Pickton in 1997, our sister may well have been alive today," Crey, who testified at the inquiry yesterday, told media. "That's what makes us angry, that's what frustrates us."

The inquiry continues.

1 news

A recent scientific breakthrough might be enough to persuade George H.W. Bush to reconsider his stance on broccoli. Scan the code for the story.

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**On the web at metronews.ca**

**In an emotional plea, Rick Mercer calls on gay public figures to 'make it better now' for gay youth. Video at metronews.ca/video**

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KENDRA WONG/FOR METRO

▶ Mayor Gregor Robertson has called for patience in shutting down the Occupy Vancouver tent city.

# Give protesters seven days: Anton

## Mayoral candidate wants 'professional staff team' to shut down Occupy Vancouver camp

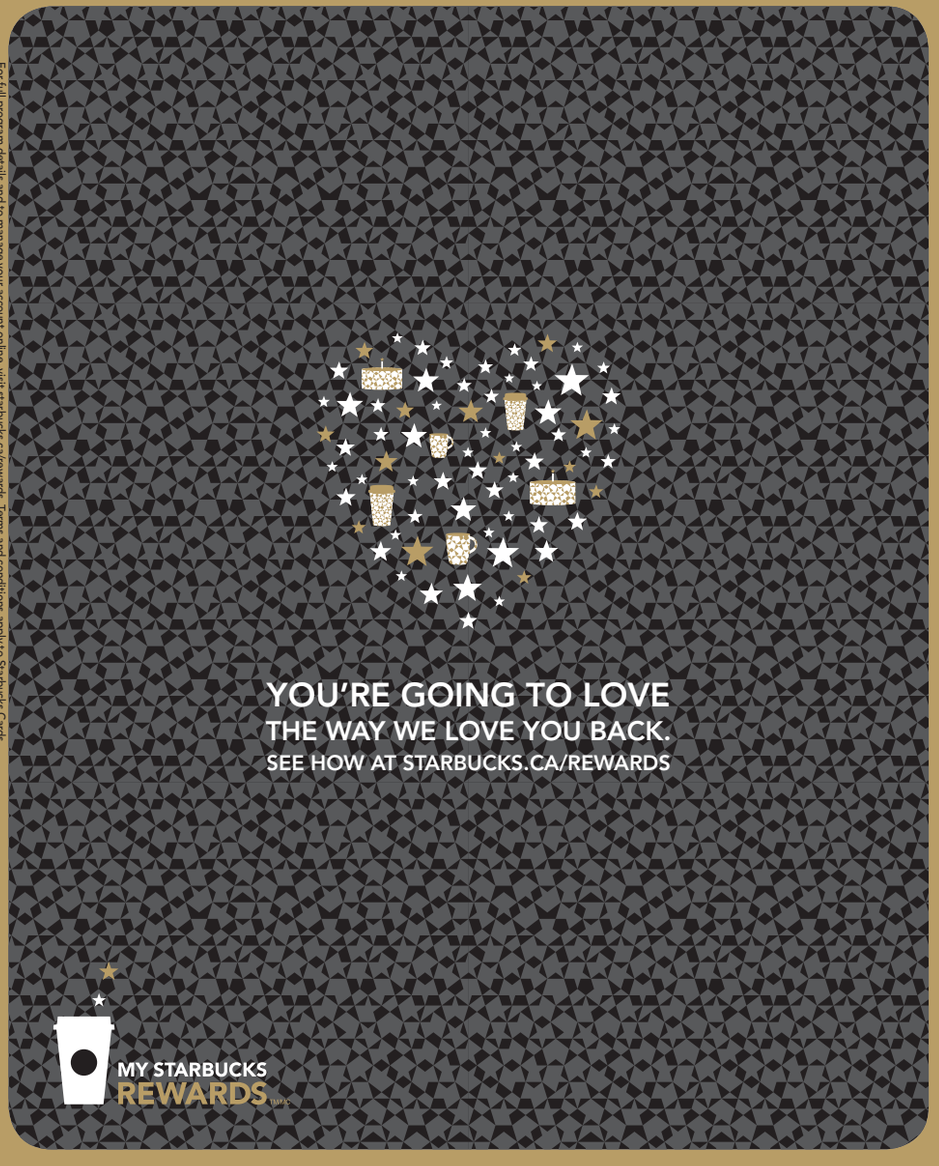
KENDRA WONG
VANCOUVER @METRONEWS.CA

Protesters should be given seven days and then they should vacate the tent city outside the Vancouver Art Gallery, mayoral candidate Suzanne Anton said yesterday, adding that she plans to submit a motion to city council to work with "a professional staff team" to shut down the camp.

Mayor Gregor Robertson, meanwhile, reasserted his support for the protest and remained adamant that physical force not be used to remove the protesters.

"Threats and ultimatums are irresponsible. We have to be patient," he said. "They have a right to protest; however, the encampment must come down."

But protesters say that's not the answer. "Personally, I believe if we take the encampment down, then we have no power," said Alison Richards, an Occupy Vancouver activist. "I understand the mayor doesn't want it here, but taking it down isn't going to solve the problem. I want to see action."

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# Overhaul marijuana laws, B.C. residents say

British Columbians want changes to the province's marijuana laws, which they deem ineffective, a new Angus Reid poll suggests.

Stop the Violence B.C., a coalition formed to pressure politicians to legally regulate marijuana sales, released a report today detailing residents' concerns about rising gang violence.

The survey says 87 per cent of residents believe gang violence is often related to drug traffickers fighting over profits from the marijuana trade.

More than half believe changes must be made to existing marijuana laws and many agree that taxing and regulating the drug may be more effective than arresting marijuana producers.

Other findings show 51 per cent believe laws must be changed and 39 per cent support mandatory minimum prison sentences for crimes related to the marijuana trade.

"We must discuss alternatives to today's failed laws with a focus on how to decrease violence," coalition member Dr. Evan Wood said in a release.

The poll sought opinions from 800 residents in Metro Vancouver, Vancouver Island and the Southern and Northern Interior.

KENDRA WONG

# Poor systems to blame for missing students at school: Study

Faulty sign-in and sign-out procedures and poor building design are to blame for two incidents at a Kensington preschool where children wandered from grounds, a report by the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation found yesterday. The school was suspended on Oct. 5 after two young children left the grounds unattended on the same day.

"Better communication was flagged as an important issue," said communications manager Joyce Courtney. New plans include increasing parent meetings, newsletters and better recognizing the needs of community members.

CHELSEA ALTICE

## News in brief

### EV owners in Surrey will get a real charge out of this

**GREEN POWER.** Surrey has opened a free charging station for electric cars, including a Nissan Leaf, which the city is testing for use by its own staff.

The Leaf can go 160 kilometres on a two-dollar charge and the city estimates the car will cost about $300 a year to run, compared to $2,200 for a gasoline-powered vehicle.

BC Hydro worked with Surrey to set up the station and says electric cars not only lower fleet costs but improve air quality.

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# Costumes for last-minute chills and thrills

## Metro looks at the most popular costumes with only days to Halloween

CHELSEA ALTICE
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

With only days remaining to Halloween, Value Village on East Hastings Street is seeing customers get creative as they mix and match new costume packages with used clothing and accessories.

"It's great. You can buy a new kit but still make it your own with what we have downstairs," said manager Jeffrey Stonehouse.

From blue Smurfs to Lady Gaga, costume ideas are abundant, but the store is selling out of more traditional vampire, devil and pirate costumes.

CHELSEA ALTICE/FOR METRO

**Pirate**
Perhaps due to the sultry scenes with Johnny Depp and Keira Knightley in popular Pirates of the Caribbean films, pirate costumes have been the No.1 bestseller for both men and women. Store costume specialist Branden Lins shows off the only style left in store with one of their most popular pirate hats.

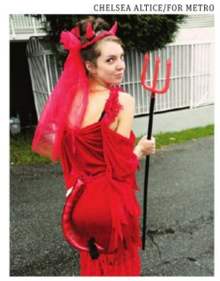
CHELSEA ALTICE/FOR METRO

**Freaky Fairy**
Melanie Turnbull models one of the largest fairy wing sets available at Value Village with a sparkly wand (a must for any fairy). To give the costume a freaky flair, she wears a messy black-and-white wig. To keep costs low, she wears a vintage dark purple dress.

CHELSEA ALTICE/FOR METRO

**Blood-sucker**
Edward Cullen fans will be happy this Halloween as vampire costumes are selling out for women and men. Lins wears a packaged option, which includes a vest, collar and cape, along with a used button-up shirt. His pointed pearly-whites are one of four gruesome fang options currently available in store.

CHELSEA ALTICE/FOR METRO



**She-devil**
A female classic — sexy devil. Turnbull shows off one of Value Village's more risqué outfits of the devil's mistress, including a tattered red dress with thigh-high boots. To accessorize the popular costume, she chooses horns that light and a devil bridal veil.

CHELSEA ALTICE/FOR METRO

**Cheeky lil' devil**
It's 16-month old Jayden Davis' first year dressing up for Halloween, but mom and dad won't be letting him near the treats yet. He wears a one-piece little devil suit, easy to put on and comfortable to wear. Furry bears and sparkly butterflies are among other adorable infant outfits.

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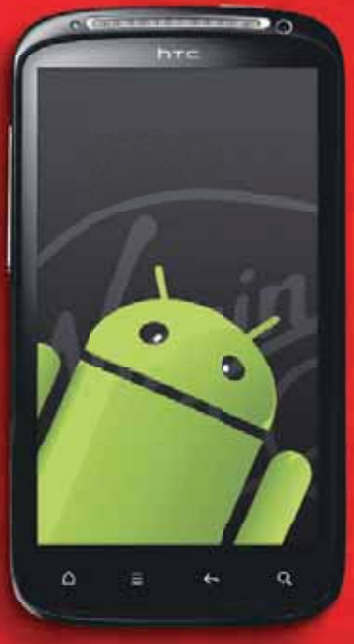


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# Hiker humbled by experience

## Man lost on North Shore for nine days says he definitely should have told someone where he was going

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

Michael St. Laurent still can't believe he got frostbite in October.

The 45-year-old experienced hiker spent nine days lost in the mountainous North Shore backcountry. He was rescued by an off-duty North Shore Rescue worker Saturday afternoon.

He said he was just planning an easy-in, easy-out day-hiking trip, but he didn't expect the frostbite would debilitate him after going off a well-used trail and spending the night without a tent.

**"Next time I go hiking, I'll be better prepared. I'm going to be quite a bit more humble about that."**
**MICHAEL ST. LAURENT**

St. Laurent also admitted he made a critical error of not letting anyone know where he was going and leaving behind his communication device.

"I should have left word," he said yesterday at a news conference at Lions Gate Hospital, where he is recovering from second-degree frostbite.

St. Laurent survived his ordeal by eating berries and drinking water from nearby streams.

He remembered taking out a felt pen and writing his personal information on his forearm in case someone found him unconscious or lifeless.

"I could feel my liver getting cold, my skin getting cold and I was losing my body heat," he said.

Rescue workers said a tarp most likely saved St. Laurent's life as it protected him from the elements.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Michael St. Laurent speaks to the media from the Lions Gate Hospital in North Vancouver.

# Province's new teacher-discipline law designed to protect students

The B.C. government is getting tougher with bad teachers, introducing legislation yesterday to make it easier to fire those who run afoul of standards.

Education Minister George Abbott said he didn't expect the 41,000-member B.C. Teachers' Federation to send him roses in response to the proposed legislation.

But he said he believes it signals the start of greater shared responsibilities between teachers, the government and education organizations.

"I don't expect the BCTF to boycott this," he said. "I am hoping that this will be the foundation for a better relationship with them."

**"It invites, I hope, a more respectful relationship."**
**EDUCATION MINISTER GEORGE ABBOTT**

Abbott's Teachers' Act gained initial support from the Opposition New Democrats who like the proposed new law aimed at assuring the public that teachers will face discipline in cases where misconduct is alleged.

"This is, in large part, a good thing," said NDP education critic Robin Austin. "It seems to take care of ensuring that the public interest comes first, ahead of any perceived perceptions that the teachers were going to be able to control, particularly, discipline, which is something of major concern to citizens."

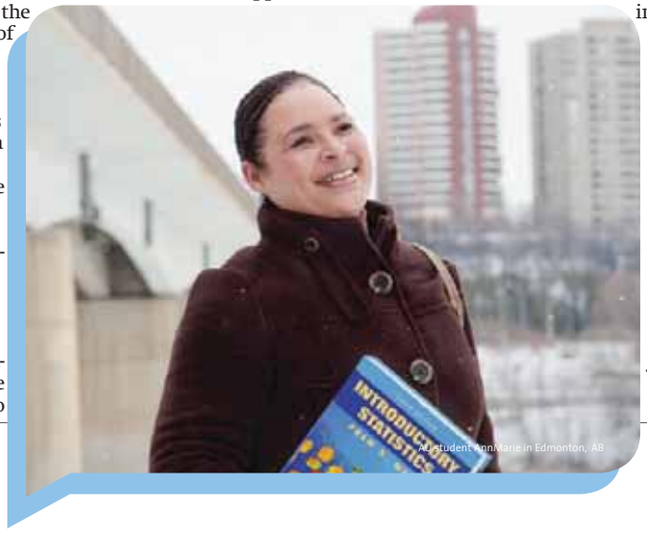
The new act dissolves the B.C. College of Teachers, replacing it with a 15-member teachers' council that represents all members of the education community.

The college of teachers has been under heavy criticism for years with government and parent groups complaining that the teachers' union controlled the regulating body.

BCTF president Susan Lambert said the union will have to learn to work with the system but said she's deeply concerned teacher misconduct and performance hearings will be conducted in public under the proposed legislation.

Lambert said the BCTF does not oppose making the findings of teacher hearings public once a decision has been made, but the public process could damage careers of teachers found innocent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS




AU student AnnMarie in Edmonton, AB

EDUCATION

## Union should pay back wages: Boards

Striking teachers should pay back part of their salary for work they haven't done for 50 days, says the government's bargaining agent, which wants the B.C. Labour Relations Board to intervene.

Melanie Joy, spokeswoman for the B.C. Public School Employers' Association, said the teachers' union needs to reimburse school districts for duties that haven't been performed since the first day of school.

"We have calculated (the amount) to be about 15 per cent of their salary," Joy said yesterday before the employers' association filed an application with the Labour Relations Board on the salary reimbursement issue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Mayor vows more art space

Mayor Gregor Robertson promised to protect artist space and promote the use of cultural and educational attractions, and he called for an immediate expansion to the Vancouver Art Gallery in his new arts and culture platform, yesterday.

The platform includes plans to develop a city-attraction pass available for free in libraries for families to access park events. The 50 passes are expected to cost $200,000 to cover the price of accessing local events and attractions.

Creating cultural space is also a priority, said Robertson, who plans to increase the amount of studio space available to the arts by 10,000 square feet over the next three years.

KENDRA WONG

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# The dark world of Mexico's cops

**Policing in Monterrey, Mexico, has become risky business This year so far, 100 officers have been killed Metro delves into the world of Mexico's law enforcers and spends a day with them to learn how they work**

*METRO WORLD NEWS IN MONTERREY, MEXICO*

JESÚS PADILLA/METRO WORLD NEWS

▶ Being a police officer is a dangerous profession in Mexico, as cops receive constant death threats from drug-gang members. Inset: Attacks on police are now commonplace.

Being a cop in Monterrey is considered a high-risk profession. The police in the capital of Mexico's northeastern state of Nuevo León receive constant death threats from drug-gang members and then do battle with them on the streets. Some extort money from citizens to make up for their meagre wages. Others receive payments from traffickers and become a halcón, or hawk, a kind of cartel informant.

If a cop doesn't comply with warring narcotic cartels, he'll be targeted and removed. So far this year, 100 law enforcers have been killed either by gunfire or grenade explosions.

At 7 p.m., we join a squadron in a local police station in downtown Monterrey. The team of three men and a woman begin patrolling Vista Hermosa, the Jewish quarter of the city until 7 a.m. At the doors to a convenience store, the guards stand on duty while eating some snacks. They carry high-calibre weapons and are protected by bulletproof vests. They drive an amped-up pickup truck.

Drinking on the street, grand and petty theft, damage to personal and commercial property and carrying weapons are the most common crimes in one night. On a quiet night, this station receives up to seven complaints of grand theft auto.

**"I'd like to see a militarization of the police force. It's time to allow the army to patrol the streets of our cities"**

**ERVEY CUELLAR, MEMBER OF THE CITIZEN'S COUNCIL FOR PUBLIC SECURITY FOR THE STATE OF NUEVO LEÓN**

Back at the convenience store, we notice that the law enforcement officials are calm and chat among themselves. And yet, clientele at the convenience store look restless and agitated by the presence of the police, undoubtedly due to the bad image they have earned over the years, either because they are easy targets for criminals to shoot at, or because they are easy pawns for drug traffickers to exploit and use.

Last February, Homero Guillermo Salcido Treviño, head of intelligence for Nuevo León state, was found dead, his body in a truck that caught fire in the centre of Monterrey — after he was kidnapped by two fellow officers.

**2,400**

**Number of uniformed police officers working in Nuevo León. Monthly salaries for law enforcers are set on average at 15,500 pesos or $1,160.**

"The worst thing is you do not know which of your colleagues is selling you out to the bad guys," said one of Treviño's relatives.

In truth, it appears what comes out of your pocket could be the real difference between life or death, as we found out in our night in the police station's jail cells.

## Police corruption

**1** In the San Pedro district of Monterrey, those arrested for drunk driving offences can accelerate the processing of their case by paying law enforcers a small fee. Foreign nationals, however, are exempt from this processing to avoid diplomatic confrontations and are released immediately.

**2** Up to $150 in cash is what detainees have to pay upfront to avoid a night in the cells.

**3** While in some municipalities in the Monterrey metropolitan area drivers can get rid of the penalties for drunk driving for up to $8, bribing a San Pedro traffic official becomes an impossible mission.

**4** Out of 100 times police filed a report, 10.3 times the citizens paid a fee. On average they pay up to $13. More than 200 million acts of corruption reportedly occurred last year at all government levels, costing Mexican citizens around $2.4 billion.

**Field notes**

## A NIGHT IN THE CELLS

From the first minute I knew I was going into the local police station in downtown Monterrey my nerves went wild. By the back entrance, prisoners arrive, mostly for minor offences or positive alcohol tests.

Out of a group of two men and one women, all of whom seem to be friends, one man is free to go. The 30-something is told his friends could be set free if they each pay $150. If not, 12 hours in the cells.

Beside the front door of the police station is an ATM from where he could get the money.

The police do not lose sight of the guy. He pays the fine; however, the police ask him to accompany them. They go down to the basement.

There, another officer asks for an increase in payment to speed up the release of his friends.

"How much is it?" the guy asks. "How much do you have?" the policeman replies.

The young man offers $37, but the police say they will not accept anything less than $225.

Again the police escort him to the ATM and ask if he has more money.

The man says his account has reached the limit and he can't withdraw more cash.

In the end, the 24-year-old girl is set free. It takes two hours for the second guy to be released.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: FOR SECURITY REASONS, METRO MEXICO DOES NOT USE REPORTER BYLINES ON STORIES ON THE WAR ON DRUGS.**

# Tourists flee Hurricane Rina

## At least 8 cruise ships were changing paths away from the storm

Tourists fleeing Hurricane Rina crowded Cancun's airport yesterday even as the cyclone lost some of its punch while heading toward Mexico's resort-studded Caribbean coast.

Rina is forecast to remain a hurricane today as it sweeps along Mexico's most popular tourist destinations of Cancun, Cozumel and the Riviera Maya, though forecasters predicted it would be downgraded to a tropical storm upon hitting land south of Cancun late tonight.

Lines snaked from ticket counters in the crowded Cancun airport as jumbo airliners headed to Canada and Europe waited in pouring rain.

Authorities evacuated some fishing communities and closed schools along the coast of Mexico's picturesque Yucatan Peninsula.

Meanwhile, NASA cut short an undersea laboratory mission near Key Largo, Fla.

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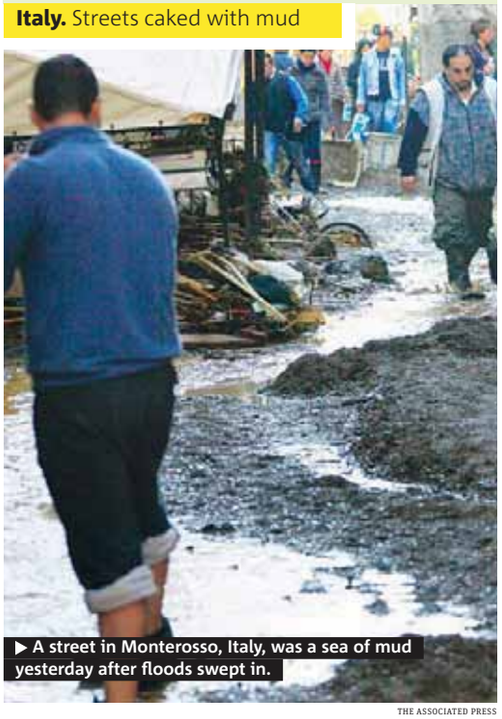
**Italy.** Streets caked with mud



▶ A street in Monterosso, Italy, was a sea of mud yesterday after floods swept in.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Deadly floods lash Italy

**Torrential rains have lashed Italy from its northern Alps to the southern island of Sicily, causing flash floods that killed at least nine people and left six others missing, officials said yesterday. Roads and bridges were swept away and several towns in Liguria were cut off from the outside world. Rome was under a flood alert.**

## one man's family

BURHAN OZBILICI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Hopes begin to dim as loved ones wait for news of trapped victims in Ercis, Turkey, yesterday.

Murat Sonmez's mother, wife and four daughters were crushed to death in their Ercis, Turkey, home by the 7.2-magnitude earthquake, leaving him so distraught he found it difficult to speak.

While media coverage has centred on tales of against-the-odds rescues including a two-week-old baby girl who was pulled alive from the rubble, most stories of the trapped have ended the way that Sonmez knows, with death and unfathomable pain for those left behind.

"I was not at home," Sonmez said, lapsing into silence at times yesterday. "God gave them, God took them away. I can't find anything to say.

"I can't describe my pain," he said as he stood by a levelled four-story apartment building.

He listed the dead: 32-year-old wife Meral, four daughters — two-year-old Nisa Nur, seven-year-old Meryem, 12-year-old Asli and 15-year-old Meral — and his 65-year-old mother, Hatice. They lived on the second floor, above some businesses. The third and fourth floors were occupied by Sonmez's brother and father, who managed to escape.

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# China puts limits on reality TV

**Government says shows are 'overly entertaining' Viewer voting seen as too similar to Western elections**

China plans to limit reality TV shows and other light entertainment fare shown on satellite television stations as part of a drive to wrest back Communist Party control over cultural industries that are fuelling more independent viewpoints.

The order from the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, known as SARFT, refers to shows that are vulgar or "overly entertaining."

The changes aim to "meet the public's demand for varied, multilevel, and high quality viewing," said the order, published yesterday.

The restrictions had been expected for some time and media reports said stations were already tailoring their programming to conform. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Cracking down**

The government order singles out programs dealing with marital troubles and matchmaking, talent shows, game shows, variety shows, talk shows and reality programming.

- Such shows must be largely phased out by 2012.

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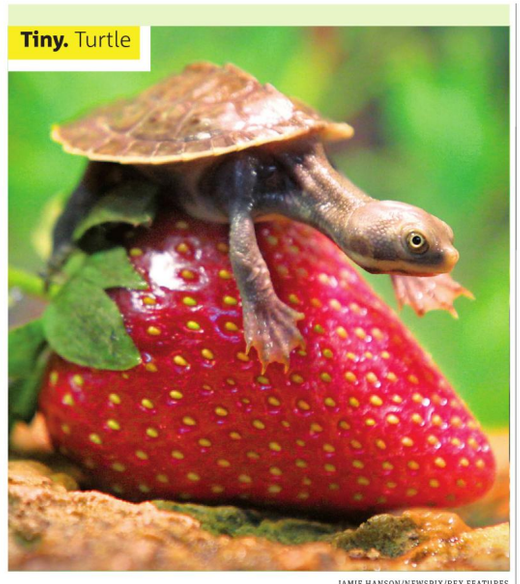
**Tiny.** Turtle



JAMIE HANSON/NEWSPIX/REX FEATURES

# Berry small reptile

**AUSTRALIA.** He may be the size of a small coin but Squirtle the turtle still appears to have a big sweet tooth.

The baby eastern long-necked turtle was caught climbing this fruit at Gowinta Farms, a large strawberry farm near Brisbane, Australia, just as the growing season was drawing to an end. METRO WORLD NEWS

**Eastern long neck**

- **2.8 centimetres:** The diameter of a baby eastern long-necked turtle's shell.
- **Their shells** grow to 25 centimetres, and their necks are the same length.
- **Odorous weapon.** They emit foul-smelling fluid from "musk glands," giving it a nickname: "stinker."

# 5-year-old driver calls police

Authorities say a five-year-old looking for her mother backed a car out of the driveway, then called police dispatchers for help.

Mansfield, Ohio, police say Ameleah Kegley backed the car out Monday evening after returning from school to an empty house.

According to the Mansfield News Journal newspaper, her mother had gone to the hospital with an emergency and her father never got the message.

Worried that her mother wasn't home, Ameleah decided to look for her. She backed her mother's car down the sloped driveway, and it came to a stop on grass across the street.

The girl dialed police dispatchers, explained the situation and asked for quick help getting the car back home because she said her mom would be upset with her. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Sex trade is a family business

## Son introduced employees to mom

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN WINNIPEG

A Winnipeg mom met prospective new sex-trade employees for her brothel through her son, who befriended them after working with them at a telephone chat line for troubled youth, a Manitoba court has heard.

Police and justice officials uncovered this and other surprising details about the city's sex trade after being tipped to probe activities at the now-shuttered bordello on a quiet Wolseley street in June 2009.

A 48-year-old mother of two pleaded guilty yesterday to running a bawdy house. The Crown dropped other charges, including a count of corrupting children. The criminal case against the woman's ex-husband was also quashed.

A publication ban prevents publishing any information identifying people at the heart of the high-profile case, including the woman's children, who were 11 and 17 at the time of her arrest and lived in the home. A system was in place to ensure the younger child wasn't there when clients visited, court heard.

**Winter.** Storm

▶ Mitch Buthod of the Boulder Forestry Dept. clears large limbs from the yard of a home in Boulder, Co., yesterday.

PAUL AIKEN/THE DAILY CAMERA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Thousands left without power supply

**A winter storm knocked out power to at least 62,000 homes and businesses along the Front Range yesterday.**

# Quebec will not bite bullet on gun registry

The Harper government's plan to not only kill the long-gun registry but subsequently bury its data has run into resistance in Quebec, which wants to bring the controversial program back from the dead.

The provincial government says it intends to keep using the gun registry on its territory and will fiercely oppose plans to destroy the data.

Speaking at a news conference in Quebec City, Public Security Minister Robert Dutil yesterday refused to rule out legal action among his options.

A spokesman explained that the province's Plan A is to maintain a respectful dialogue with Ottawa and negotiate a mechanism to save the records. If that fails, Plan B options will be weighed.

Earlier yesterday, Public Safety Minister Vic Toews told the Commons the registry had done nothing to keep weapons away from criminals. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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**Tight.** Fit

▶ Rescue personnel gather around a man who became stuck in a tree on Tuesday in Laguna Hills, Calif.

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Stuck man rescued

**Orange County deputies found the man stuck up to his chest inside a narrow hole in the trunk, which extended about four or five feet underground. The man was later rescued**

# Force unnerves activists

## Some cities going ahead with plans to evict anti-Wall Street protesters

The display of police force in Oakland and Atlanta has unnerved some anti-Wall Street protesters.

While demonstrators in other cities have built a working relationship with police and city leaders, they wondered yesterday how long the good spirit would last and whether they could be next.

Will they have to face riot gear-clad officers and tear gas that their counterparts in Oakland faced on Tuesday? Or will they be handcuffed and hauled away in the middle of the night like protesters in Atlanta?

"Yes, we're afraid. Is this the night they're going to sneak in?" said activist William Buster of Occupy Wall Street.

"Is this the night they might use unreasonable force?" he asked.

An Iraq War veteran marching with demonstrators suffered a cracked skull in the chaos between officers and protesters in Oakland.

Scott Olsen, a 24-year-old Marine veteran, was in critical condition yesterday after he had been struck, said a spokesman for Highland Hospital.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Undecided**

▶ **Occupy Nova Scotia protesters have not yet decided whether to heed a request to leave a public square in front of Halifax City Hall. Mayor Peter Kelly has asked the group to move to another space by Nov. 6 so that Grand Parade can be cleaned up.**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# RIM faces lawsuit for this month's outage

Canadian BlackBerry users affected by Research In Motion's global outage earlier this month are being asked to join in a proposed class-action lawsuit seeking refunds for the downtime.

Consumer Law Group Inc. of Montreal said it has filed a nationwide suit against BlackBerry maker RIM and claims the company has failed to directly compensate BlackBerry users, who pay monthly data fees to wireless carriers.

"The class action involves RIM's failure to take action to either directly compensate BlackBerry users or to indirectly compensate BlackBerry users by arranging for wireless service providers to refunds their customers and to take full responsibility for these damages," the group said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ RIM is facing a lawsuit for its BlackBerry outage earlier this month.

## RIM delays PlayBook OS launch

Research In Motion is delaying the launch of an upgraded operating system for its struggling PlayBook computer tablet until February 2012

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company says the new version of the operating system isn't up to its standards at this point.

"As much as we'd love to have it in your hands today, we've made the difficult decision to wait to launch BlackBerry PlayBook OS 2.0 until we are confident we have fully met the expectations of our developers, enterprise customers and end-users," RIM's senior vice president David Smith said on the company's blog.

THE CANADIAN PRESS


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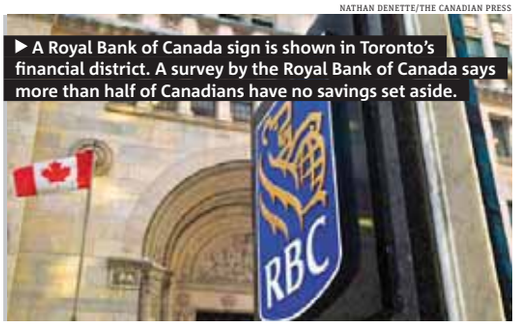
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS




▶ A Royal Bank of Canada sign is shown in Toronto's financial district. A survey by the Royal Bank of Canada says more than half of Canadians have no savings set aside.

# Two surveys, same worries

## Consumer confidence hits lowest level since 2009, points indicate

Consumer confidence has dipped to levels last reported two and a half years ago during the depths of the recession, as Canadians grapple with higher everyday costs, record debt and fears of major downturn.

The Conference Board of Canada said yesterday that its index of consumer confidence fell 3.3 points to 71.8. The index, based on a survey conducted this month, is measured against a reading of 100 in 2002. A separate survey by the Royal Bank of Canada garnered the same results.

Both come as Canadians deal with higher prices for gasoline, food and clothing, record debt spurred by ultra-low interest rates, and stock market turmoil that has eroded nest eggs amid signs of slowing economic growth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## High gas prices are for real

The Bank of Canada says Canadians aren't imagining things when they notice gas prices are unusually high given the posted price of crude oil. The bank confirmed yesterday that the price of gasoline in Canada has increased by more than the price of WTI (West Texas Intermediate) oil. And gas prices have largely failed to decline in conjunction with WTI. It said gas prices are generally composed of the price of crude, taxes and profit margins for refineries and retailers.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

## News in brief

### Investors take a hit for Greece

**DEBT.** Private investors agreed this morning to accept losses of 50 per cent on their Greek bonds removing the last apparent roadblock to a European plan to solve the debt crisis. Leaders had already agreed to force banks to raise $148 billion US by June.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

| TSX | Dollar |
|---|---|
| + 76.31 (12,186.06) | + 1.12¢ (99.52¢ US) |

| Oil | Natural gas | Gold |
|---|---|---|
| - 2.97¢ US ($90.20 US) | $3.590 (- 6.8¢) | $1,723.50 (+ $23.10) |

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# CONFESSION: I HAVE A THING FOR THE GOP

## HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

The U.S. has been a beacon for millions of people, but I'm probably the only person who's ever wanted to head there because of Republican presidential debates.

Yes, America's Grand Old Party is calling and I'm starting to listen.

Now before you have me maple-syruped and feathered, let me be clear: I love Canada. Anne Murray's as sexy as ever, peameal bacon wrapped in dulse and washed down with Clamato still hits the spot, and hearing the opening strains of "I'm a lumberjack and I'm OK" always brings a tear to the eye.

It's just that I find the Republicans — and the heartland that supports them — deeply alluring because, well, because they seem kind of nuts. It's a way-out foreign culture, every bit as exotic as those far-flung reaches of the globe I clamour to visit.

Canadians have a tendency to think of our southern neighbours as merely heavier, prouder, louder versions of ourselves — sort of Canucks dialed up to 11. But the Republican presidential debates remind me how wrong that is.

**"So though my gut reaction is to roll my eyes or worse, I instead want to learn the ways of this bizarre culture."**

Usually, American TV misleads us, since it's made by liberal places that most urban Canadians find easy to swallow, like New York and Hollywood.

Watching the American TV programs I did growing up, I believed that any young American tadpole (The Muppet Show) can admit to being gay (Ellen) but continue movin' on up (The Jeffersons) until he can afford a New York loft apartment that would cost more than the Iraq invasion (Friends).

On most American TV, the U.S. seems like Canada with better temperatures and thinner people.

But the Republican debates show me a culture so different I barely comprehend it. People applaud the mention of the death penalty. Nobody seems to know what taxes are for. Rick Santorum is seen as a normal person.

This is a place I want to learn about. If this were any other continent, I'd be deeply interested. I'd want to understand.

So though my gut reaction is to roll my eyes or worse, I instead want to learn the ways of this bizarre culture.

I want to see heartland America — more Jerry Falwell, less Jerry Seinfeld. More Bible Belt, which holds up the britches of the nation. Less San Francisco, where pants are optional.

This will require research, so I plan to watch a lot of bad television, eat free-range beef and drink beer, as befits my current, close-minded understanding of heartland America.

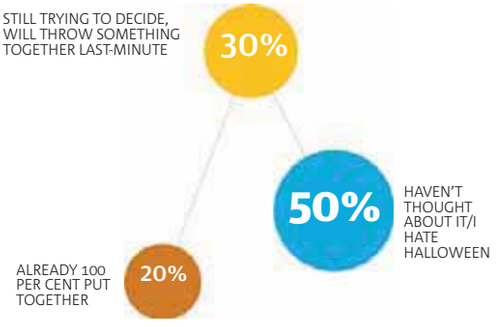
Come to think of it, I've been researching to be an American all my life.

I'm gonna melt right in.

*Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays*

Metropolitan Panel
**Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll**

**How far along are you in preparing your Halloween costume?**


STILL TRYING TO DECIDE, WILL THROW SOMETHING TOGETHER LAST-MINUTE
30%
50%
HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT/I HATE HALLOWEEN
ALREADY 100 PER CENT PUT TOGETHER
20%

## Local tweets

- **@D_Booth7:** My first tweet?! Was proud to be a Panther- Now excited and ready to be a Canuck! Cant wait for game time!
- **@Real_ESPNLeBrun:** Both very passionate ! RT @Nav097 : @Real_ESPNLeBrun Whose crazier, us Nucks fans' or Les Habitants?
- **@michaeleckford:** Just arrived in Scottsdale...or little Vancouver!
- **@trevor_linden:** Ok so its 6 degrees and raining....and its fantastic!! Snow in Whistler and NS mountains. #skiseasonrightaroundthecorner
- **@michaelgeller:** @CBCNews the mayor is wrong! The VAG is not Provincial land, it's City Land. The city received it in 1974 on a 99 year lease in land swap
- **@SChandraHerbert:** In these darkening days Diwali's brightening lights of hope are wonderful. #HappyDiwali!
- **@ScottRintoul:** In between acts at Foo Fighters concert and it feels like a Canucks game. Everyone watching hockey on the screens in the concourse

## Letters

Cudos and a big "Well Done" to the CPC for living up to their promise to rid us of the ineffective and expensive long-gun registry. Hopefully this is only step one in the process of ridding Canada of other such failed and failing social engineering projects. It's a refreshing change to have some common sense coming out of Ottawa.

**MR. KEN DECARLE**
**GABRIOLA ISLAND, B.C.**

*RE: Lesbian couple turfed from Timmies, published Oct. 25*

I do not understand why the lesbian couple did not apologize to customers of Tim Hortons for making out in a public space, in the first place.

I am more than sure that the Tim Hortons staff was aware what this couple was doing and unfortunately did nothing about it until other customers started to complain. I am more than sure, that it was not done at first out of fear.

No one should have the rights to bother others if one does not want to be sued by them for discrimination on a base of their sexual orientation and they use it to whole extent.

**BOZENNA SIEDLECKA**
**PORT MOODY, B.C.**

## photo of the day

▶ This photo, titled Hidden Beauty, was submitted to the Fashion category by nejlaskaratas from The Netherlands.

**Metro invites its readers to join the Metro Global Photo Challenge — running in 100 cities on four continents — to win fantastic prizes and worldwide recognition.**
**Enter your digital photos at metrophotochallenge.com. The contest runs until Nov. 22. As well as a chance to win a trip to any city Metro publishes, one submission will also be featured here daily.**

WEIRD NEWS

## Earth invaded by Lego man

The sight of an eight-foot-tall Lego man evokes the paranormal and the unexplained, according to beachgoers on the Siesta Key Beach.

The statue, with the grammatically incorrect phrase "No real than you are" written on its chest, was discovered early Tuesday morning in Sarasota, Fla., according to the Daily Mail.

"I figured he probably fell down from up above somewhere," one man told Tampa Bay 10 News.

"I kind of think it was from the UFO people," a female passerby told the news station.

SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ "I am here to discover and learn about your world and thoughts," the figure's website says.

The Washington Post reported Ego Leonard, the name on the back of the statue, could also be the artist responsible for the prank. The Sarasota Herald-Tribune emailed the artist for a comment, and his reply came back written as if it was from the Lego man himself. METRO

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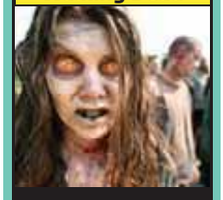
2 scene

**Walking Dead**



AMC network said on Tuesday that its hit zombie drama, Walking Dead, just two weeks into a second season, will be returning for a third season. Sunday's episode drew an audience of 6.7 million viewers for the early airing
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Simon Cowell talks voting on The X Factor by using social media like Twitter and Facebook

▶ Vancouver has plenty of options to get your scare on for Halloweekend.

# Hunting for the haunted

**Metro puts together a list of places to get scared this Halloweekend** **It's not just for kids**

## BACKSTAGE PASS

GRAEME MCRANOR
METRO VANCOUVER

Saturday night's alright for frighting — it's Halloweekend!

Halloween has officially lost its sheen. Maybe it's because I can't fit into my homemade Jawa costume my mom made for me in the mid-'70s. Or because I lost my sweet tooth when some jerk head-butted it out of my mouth on to the cement outside the now-defunct Graceland nightclub back in the late '80s.

Then again, I have a three-year-old boy now — arguably a bit young to take trick-or-treating, but too big to attach to my mid-section and carry around like Kuato from the film Total Recall.

More probably, it's got something to do with age vs. the decline of house parties. Apparently, once you have kids, having unconscious strangers draped across your furniture on a Sunday morning is frowned upon.

Regardless, for those of you planning on venturing out into the haunted streets of Vancouver this Saturday night, I've put together the following not-quite exhaustive list of things to do this Halloweekend.

Cue creepy organ music:

**Halloween Costume Ball 2011**

A costume ball at Science World. A ball within a ball, if you will. This is the fifth year for this 19+ licensed event. Two rooms on two floors. Starts at 9 p.m. and shuts down at 2 a.m. General admission sold out but some VIP tickets remain. Check clubzone.com.

**Devin Townsend**

The Commodore used to have one of the best Halloween nights going. Now they have Devin Townsend, who can also be quite scary. Of course, if you're a Townsend fan, he's probably preferable to vomit-stained sexy ghosts. It's also the Scrape Records Anniversary Show: 14 Years of Destroying Vancouver. With guests The Ocean and Nihilate. Tickets $20. Show starts at 9 p.m. Visit LiveNation.com for more information.

**Dooms Night 3D**

Man, even parties are using 3D as a marketing gimmick.

Thanks a lot, Hollywood.

Still, this all-ages zombie-fest promises to go from dusk 'til dawn (10 p.m. until 8 a.m.), features a lengthy list of live DJs and thousands of undead revelers. At Pacific Coliseum. General admission tickets: $100. Check clubzone.com.

**The Stanley Park Halloween Ghost Train**

If you couldn't land a babysitter Saturday because he/she is getting dressed (pre-drinking) for Dooms Night, haul the kids onboard the Ghost Train. Runs tomorrow and Saturday night from 6-11 p.m. and Sunday, Monday from 6-10 p.m. Adults $9.82 plus tax; kids (2-18) and seniors $6.25.

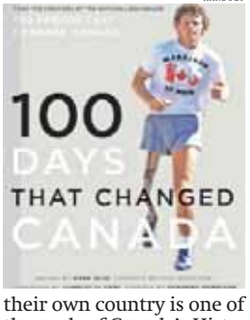
Tell them I sent you.

They will look confused.

# Don't be 'fooled': Canadian history does matter

## Conrad Black, Denise Donlon among contributors to new book 100 Days That Changed Canada

HANDOUT




Denise Donlon writes on the day MuchMusic rocked the tube. Peter Mansbridge details when baseball player Jackie Robinson broke the colour barrier. And Conrad Black outlines a train trip by Canada's first prime minister.

Those are but a few of the essays by well-known Canadian personalities in the new book 100 Days That Changed Canada (HarperCollinsCanada), now in stores.

Editor Mark Reid says the coffee-table-style hardback is "a starting point on a journey for Canadians who want to rediscover all the turning points that have made them Canadian."

"You don't need to have a history degree to enjoy this. You don't even have to be a history buff. What you need to do is have a curiosity about your own country," he said in a recent phone interview from Winnipeg, where he serves as editor-in-chief of Canada's History national magazine (formerly The Beaver).

"I think for too long we've been fooled into thinking that our history somehow doesn't measure up, that somehow other countries' histories are more interesting and exciting."

Reid said making Canadians enthusiastic about their own country is one of the goals of Canada's History Society, which selected the 100 days for the project.

A follow-up to the best-selling 100 Photos That Changed Canada, also edited by Reid, the book outlines the trials, tribulations, and celebrations of 144 years in Canadian history.

The first essay is on July 1, 1867, when Canadians rung in Confederation, and the last chronicles Nov. 16, 2010, when Canada extended its military mission in Afghanistan. In between is a broad range of key moments in various areas, from politics and war, to culture and sports and entertainment.

Each essay is illustrated by an archival photo, which come from various sources, including Library and Archives Canada, GetStock, the Toronto Star and The Canadian Press.

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# ‘Everything is good’

## No conflicts this time around for top-selling Idol alum Kelly Clarkson

MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Kelly Clarkson’s latest album Stronger was released on Tuesday.

It may have taken some time, but Kelly Clarkson seems to finally be releasing an album without any drama on the side.

“Everything is good, everything is happy,” she said, laughing brightly during a recent interview to promote Stronger, which was released this week.

It’s a different scenario than her last two albums: She went through public disputes with legendary executive and mogul Clive Davis over her third album and with OneRepublic singer-songwriter Ryan Tedder after her last album was released.

They were typical of the bold stances she’s taken that proved her to be more than the passive, malleable product of a hit TV competition, establishing her as an artist instead of just a voice.

**“If you look at my whole catalogue, there are far more sadder songs than happy.”**
**KELLY CLARKSON**

“I’ve been a fighter since I started walking,” she said, adding casually and genuinely a line that could be lifted from one of her inspirational songs: “We get one life. You want to make sure that you’re living it how you want to live it.”

Since Clarkson became the first American Idol a decade ago, she’s established herself as one of pop’s most formidable, and successful singers. She’s sold more than 20 million albums worldwide and landed seven singles in the Billboard Hot 100 top 10, including Breakaway, My Life Would Suck Without You, Miss Independent, and perhaps her biggest hit, Since U Been Gone.

Clarkson has maintained creative control of her music and career since her Idol days, and has written on all of her albums. But her determination to chart her own course has not come without a few battles. In 2007, Davis became concerned over the less commercial sound of Clarkson’s third album, My December, which Clarkson revealed publicly after rumours of a rift; Clarkson later mended fences and called the tension overblown. Then in 2009, Clarkson called out Tedder for musical similarities between Already Gone, which he wrote for Clarkson, and Beyoncé’s Halo, which he also wrote.

Clarkson calls her new collection of 13 songs “the easiest record that I’ve made with my label.” But she makes clear that’s because the suits bent to her will — not the other way around.

“I think people project on you like the formula that has worked in the past. And then they get to know you,” she said. “(Now) they know me better as an artist, they know me better as a person. They know what I’m going to do and what I don’t like, and it just really works.”

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

FRANK GUNN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Max Kerman, left, and Nick Dika from The Arkells.

# Arkells courting a wider audience

**“We’re happy with the way this record turned out. But to say that we knew what we wanted to do going into the studio would be lying.”**
**MAX KERMAN, FRONTMAN OF THE ARKELLS**

After converting years of relentless touring into a Juno win and a major-label record deal, the Arkells have finally won the opportunity to introduce themselves to a much wider audience.

And they were careful not to overstay their welcome.

Sophomore record Michigan Left breezes by in just over 35 minutes, a disc of tuneful guitar rock songs that aim to pack the sugary jolt of a Pixy stix.

Only the yearning nightcrawler Coffee clocks in over four minutes, and the Hamilton band says that brevity was, well, carefully calculated.

“It’s our second record — we thought people were only going to give it so much time,” said guitarist Mike DeAngelis in an interview this week in Toronto.

“So we might as well hit them, you know?”

Since releasing their debut disc Jackson Square in 2008, Arkells have earned a reputation for their fiery live show and melodic rock, which was both sufficiently stylish for discerning indie rockers and tuneful enough to wrest radio play.

But following the Juno win for new group of the year and the subsequent deal with Universal, the band faced heightened expectations for a follow-up that had been in the works for three years.

The primary hurdle? Attempting to capture the energy of their well-received live performances on disc.

“It’s definitely a challenge for us,” said frontman Max Kerman.

“Live, we’re able to get better at it by doing it a lot — you’re on the road and you play for a month straight, and you oughta be better at it.

“Recording (is) a whole different ballgame because figuring out how to capture your sound is pretty difficult, and you don’t always know what you’re going for and it’s a learning experience.”

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# Horror minus horrible

## Spate of horror-themed TV series celebrate Halloween thrills all year

HANDOUT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Connie Britton stars in American Horror story.

Halloween-themed TV specials are popping up all over the dial this week but there's nothing special about the spooky holiday for an increasing number of shows that tell terrifying tales all year long.

Scarefests such as The Walking Dead, Ghost Hunters, True Blood and Lost Girl — as well as the upcoming American Horror Story and Grimm — are doing their part to keep Halloween running 365 days a year, making the macabre more mainstream in the process.

"In a sense you could say every episode is a Halloween episode," actor Chris Leavins says of his Canadian horror-comedy Todd and the Book of Pure Evil, which returns for a second season Sunday on Space.

Ghosts, ghouls, vampires, zombies and creatures of all sorts have overtaken the small screen — and they're no longer just relegated to specialty digital channels, says genre expert Teddy Wilson of Space's flagship entertainment show InnerSPACE. He points to the CBS/Global supernatural medical drama A Gifted Man, in which a surgeon is visited by the spirit of his dead wife, and NBC/CTV's Grimm, in which a detective discovers mythological creatures living among us in disguise, as among the creepy shows targeting a broad audience.

Meanwhile, Rogers Media executive Scott Moore notes that the much-touted chiller American Horror Story has surprised FX by being the first show on the specialty network in many years to skew female, likely thanks in large part to its hunky star, Dylan McDermott of The Practice.

"Horror has grown over the last few years," says Moore, broadcasting president of Rogers Media, which launches FX Canada on Monday.

"I think a lot of it was pushed by the Twilight series in movies, but what's interesting about American Horror Story is it's not your typical horror — it's not gory, not really gory. It's more of a thriller and it's really character-driven. Over the course of the series I think it becomes... more and more about the family and more and more about the characters."

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# Pattinson feared showing skin

Robert Pattinson admits that he was nervous about showing some skin in the more intimate scenes of the Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1, thanks in no small part to his co-star Taylor Lautner. "I had never been so worried about that before, but after seeing how much Taylor works out for the movies, I thought, 'Well, everybody is really going to judge me now.'" METRO

# New day, more bail for the Lohans

The estranged father of actress Lindsay Lohan made his first appearance in court on domestic violence charges. Judge Walter Heinrich set bail at $5,000 for Michael Lohan on Wednesday. Lohan is accused of grabbing his on-and-off girlfriend and pushing her down multiple times during an argument at her Tampa condo Sunday.

The judge told Lohan to stay away from 28-year-old Kate Major.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Jen Aniston sets the record straight

## Tells Hello she's not getting married Not pregnant, either

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jennifer Aniston

Jennifer Aniston is speaking out about her personal life, chatting with Hello magazine to clear up a couple of rumours. "Rumour number one: I am not planning to get married any time soon," says Aniston, who is currently dating Justin Theroux. "I've been married once, and I don't know if I'll get married again. But I can tell you that as of this very moment, I have no plan to get married. Got that?" Of course, that wasn't all she wants to clear up. "And rumour number two, we're not pregnant," she says, addressing speculation about her weight. "It's just I quit smoking, so I've gained a couple of pounds." METRO

▶ Amy Winehouse

# BOOZE KILLED AMY

## THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

It wasn't drugs that killed Amy Winehouse. It was booze.

It was announced yesterday by a legal inquest looking into the death of the singer that she had more than five times the legal driving limit of alcohol in her blood when she died on July 23 at age 27, Reuters reports. Her death was deemed "death by misadventure" by British coroner Suzanne Greenaway.

Even more tragic? The London hearing states the singer had not drank alcohol that month until the day before it killed her.

Not to make light of Winehouse's tragic demise but you have to shake your head at the Brit-speak. "Death by misadventure" makes it sound like she was swinging on a vine and then fell into a crocodile pit, right?

## Celebrity tweets

Today, Joan Rivers is passing judgment, Will Arnett is trying to keep up with online lingo, Victoria Beckham is feeling popular, and Conan O'Brien is considering his investments.

@Joan_Rivers
"DR. CONRAD MURRAY IS GUILTY (of wearing boring ties)!!!!!"

@victoriabeckham
wow! two million followers!!Thank u so much for all your support!!!!

@arnettwill
"pwned".. Are we back to saying that yet? Where are we on "Epic Fail"

@ConanOBrien
"Gaddafi may have been worth $200 billion when he was killed. Even more tragic, he was just 2 days away from retirement."

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**How does the Versace for H&M 'greatest hits' collection stack up against the real thing? Metro's Kenya Hunt compares the high street clothes, which are based on the luxury brand's past collections, with the expensive originals.**

# The archives for less

When you consider that they all tend to follow the same formula, it's hard to believe that collaborations between famous designers and mass market brands can still generate the level of excitement that Donatella Versace's new collection for H&M has.

Each launch, without fail, comes with the shiny 'Greatest hits!' label attached.

But let's be honest; shoppers want dresses that scream designer, not chintzy knockoff — as in, "Are people staring at me because they think this is the real thing or because my skirt looks flammable?" Frankly, there haven't been a whole lot of high-low collaborations that have struck the right balance.

So with that in mind, we compare H&M's latest with a few standouts from the Versace archives.

CATWALKING

## 1

This dress, which is straight from the SS'12 show, has that "just off the runway" feeling. The H&M version may not have the leather strips and asymmetry that the catwalk dress does, but it impressively nails the maximal, studded to the Gods look of the original.

CATWALKING

## 2

Donatella replaces the original's Greek key pattern — a trademark of the Versace house that appears on other items in the H&M collection — with graphic hearts. The patterned fringing and cut-out shoulders are just right.

CATWALKING

## 3

These tropical trousers will make a colourful alternative to the festive cocktail dress for your office holiday party. That said, the H&M incarnation out-Versace's the Versace pants in loudness, even if they are missing the little baroque patterned trim at the hem.

CATWALKING

## 4

On paper, the two are nearly identical. The flashy buckle and gilt waistband are there. But the H&M belt may turn silver after a few too many wears.

## The grade

As far as greatest hits collections go, the H&M line feels more like new Versace than old. But it does a great job of recreating the brand's money-is-no-object look by steering clear of fancy fabrics that are impossible to re-do on the cheap and sticking with the fun details that make the garments stand out in the first place. That said, maybe just steer clear of the gold accessories.

3 life

## Fiction to fashion

TATTOO LINE

Swedish fashion retailer H&M says it will release a collection of clothes inspired by the rebellious character Lisbeth Salander in Stieg Larsson's best-selling crime novel The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fashion icon Margit Brandt dies; instrumental in breakthrough for Danish fashion

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**Jeanne Space**



In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.

@Jeanne_Beker:
**When it comes to Halloween partying, should we dress for STYLE or COMFORT? And what is scarier: having bad style...or being uncomfortable?**

- **@MrsMurray_at_FT:** It's scarier to have bad style, always.
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** SO, if it's a SCARY "costume" we're after, I guess just exercise BAD TASTE!
- **@ynq25335:** Comfort is important to me; would never wear anything too bare, feathers, high shoes, heavy mask or hot costume, accessories :)
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Yeah, that could really ruin a fun time, eh?
- **@dangoodbaum:** more importantly: sexy or scary? I say Amish costume beats sexy nurse hands down.
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Both those looks sound equally scary if you ask me...

▶@Jeanne_Beker: Edgy elegance @Denis_Gagnon

▶@Jeanne_Beker: @Denis_Gagnon is being playful for spring with interesting cuts that are mildly wild...

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# Not-so-heavy metal

## THE KIT

**BY JANINE FALCON**

"Metallic eye shadows tend to be less tightly pressed than other finishes," notes M.A.C senior artist Melissa Gibson.

"For more control, use a compact, short-haired brush to press powder into place. A moist base also increases staying power."

Hanoch Drori, a makeup artist from So You Think You Can Dance Canada, says to avoid eye areas with heavier creases.

"You'll get best results if you apply metallics where the skin is smoothest, such as the centre lid and under the brows."

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# 5 OF FALL'S TRENDIEST PRINTS TO MIX

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**PYTHON**
**Michael Michael Kors clutch**
- $270, michaelkors.com

**PLAID**
**Isabel Marant skirt**
- $255, netaporter.com

**FLORALS**
**Mango skirt**
- $60, mango.com

**STARS**
**ASOS belted dress**
- $78, asos.com

KENYA HUNT

# On-the-mend trend

## Lost art of mending gains new following for reasons economic and environmental And it ain't just for gals

SEAN O'DRISCOLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Sean O'Driscoll fixes his pants pockets at the Brooklyn chapter of Sewing Rebellion in New York.

"If you can drive a car, you can drive this," says Maya Valladares as I press the sewing machine pedal to the floor and complete my first stitch.

After years of having holes in my pants pockets, I am finally learning to fix one.

The process is more complicated than I suspected: Carefully cutting through three layers of stitches to remove the pocket lining requires the precision and patience of a surgeon. When I finally get the lining out, Valladares puts her palm underneath it and says, "See? You can see my hand through it — cheap cotton, shredded to pieces." But that's no reason to buy new pants.

This is my first class with Sewing Rebellion, a group with chapters springing up across the U.S. Its aim is to promote the reuse and repair of clothing as a way to fight consumer waste. The group offers free classes on darning socks, sewing buttons or, for the more advanced, repurposing an old shirt or refitting a dress.

**"I wanted to honour the labour that created these clothes. We buy clothes cheaply and throw them away. We don't see the worker who put all that effort into creating it."**
**CAROLE LUNG-BAZILE**
**CREATOR OF SEWING REBELLION**

SEAN O'DRISCOLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In Brooklyn, it provided use of sewing machines, needles and thread, and offered instruction and almost infinite patience for beginners. Run by a dyeing instructor at the Textile Arts Center, it even provided the onions, rusty nails, wine and chai tea used as natural dyes.

Valladares herself hasn't bought any new clothes in more than two years.

"A guilty energy develops — you stop buying because of the waste, and you can't go back to the way you were," she says.

But is it for men? I'm the only male among 12 women in this New York group.

"I can't believe it," says Valladares as she reshapes my pocket. "A roomful of women? And guys aren't interested?"

Maybe if sewing were pitched to men as rugged survivalism, it might attract more interest. "Definitely, if men could see it that way, they would show up," says Valladares. "They should see it as a survival tool."

Sewing Rebellion was created by Carole Lung-Bazile of Los Angeles to, well, sow rebellion against consumerism with the slogan "Use it up! Wear it out! Make it do!"

Besides protecting the planet, says Lung-Bazile, "I wanted to honour the labour that created these clothes. We buy clothes cheaply and throw them away. We don't see the worker who put all that effort into creating it."

Other groups are sprouting up across the country, including Hacking Couture in New York City and Stitchy in Chicago. Participants are often drawn by a desire for camaraderie, increased environmental awareness and, of course, economic hard times.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### She's sew smart

**Lung-Bazile, who takes the mock-heroic name Frau Fiber when promoting Sewing Rebellion, has a history in the fabric industry.**

- She worked for 15 years for a small bridal house in Lancaster, Pa., before losing her job during an economic slump.
- "I was assistant designer, production manager, I hired the models. I did it all. I really got to know the clothing industry and what it takes to get those clothes to you," she says.

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▶ Ten-foot ceilings on the main floor add to the homes' open-concept design in Clayton Heights homes by Legendary Developments. Other interior features include low-e windows and stainless steel Energy Star appliances

# Family values in Surrey

## Legendary Developments making homes affordable in Clayton Heights neighbourhood
## Home styles feature open-concept designs Green space figures prominently

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

Seldom has there been a tougher time for a young family to buy a home in Metro Vancouver, but real estate prices and builders in Surrey are making high-quality, family-oriented developments affordable.

Kevin Dhaliwal's family has been building homes in Surrey for 30 years since his father started the business. Now co-owner of Legendary Developments, Dhaliwal knows family homes, and his company has built more than 300 homes in Surrey since its inception 10 years ago.

The new Clayton Heights development in Cloverdale, Surrey, is Legendary's latest undertaking, a mixed development of townhomes, duplexes and single-family homes with carriage houses, located in the Clayton Heights neighbourhood above 72nd Avenue.

"The Clayton Heights neighbourhood is really well-designed by the city of Surrey," said Dhaliwal, noting it is one of the first areas where developments benefited from the city's new green space requirements. "There are parks everywhere throughout Clayton. We're nestled away in a nice, quiet area."

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Visitors usually notice the size of the kitchen first when checking out Legendary Developments homes.

Green space figures prominently in Clayton Heights in particular. The development includes half an acre of green space — about 50 times more than required by law, said Dhaliwal.

"The majority of people that move into Clayton are young families — first-time homebuyers just starting off," he said. To that end, Clayton Heights offers great value, said Dhaliwal. The townhomes are approximately $209 per square foot.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Quartz countertops are featured in the bathrooms, as well as 12 mm laminate flooring throughout.

"It's a very good investment."

The carriage-style homes are about the same size as the duplex homes, but include a detached garage with a one-bedroom suite above it, said Dhaliwal. The going rental rate for a one-room carriage house suite in Clayton is about $800 to $900, so it's a great potential source of rental income, he said.

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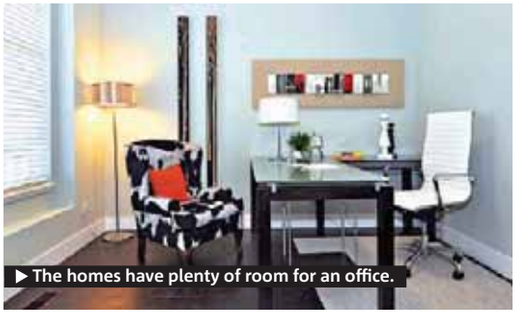

▶ The homes have plenty of room for an office.

Interiors of all three home styles have an open-concept feel and the first thing visitors notice, said Dhaliwal, is the size of the kitchens. "A kitchen area is where a lot of people do their entertaining. When you have friends and family over, a lot of people hang around the kitchen."

### Meet the home

- **DEVELOPER**: Legendary Developments
- **TYPES**: Townhomes; duplexes (three bedrooms, two bathrooms upstairs, plus two bedrooms and one bathroom downstairs); and detached homes plus carriage houses (three bedrooms, two bathrooms upstairs plus two bedrooms and one bathroom downstairs)
- **PRICES**: Now selling for $419,000, $449,000 and $549,900
- **WEBSITE**: claytonheightsliving.com

Ten-foot ceilings on the main floor add to the homes' open-concept design. "It's amazing how open it feels," said Dhaliwal. "We've had nothing but compliments. People love them."

Other interior features include low-e windows, stainless steel Energy Star appliances and a stainless steel chimney-style range hood, quartz countertops, and 12 mm laminate flooring throughout.

Set in the heart of the hot SoMa (South Main) neighbourhood, UPTOWN features concrete construction, 8'8" ceilings and elegant interior finishings. It also offers a fully equipped fitness room, panoramic rooftop terrace, sports & entertainment lounge and boutique hotel style lobby, plus a host of other eco-friendly features including a green roof and a 220V electric vehicle parking stall option.

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# Remaining trendy
## but a little quieter

**Looking at three properties in the suburb of Port Moody close to shopping, dining and hiking trails**

## ON THE MARKET

RYAN DELUCA
FOR METRO

Brandon Dunne is a 33-year-old successful businessman working in the heart of Yaletown.

Spending all that time in the middle of the action, he has decided he would rather spend his evenings in the quiet, yet equally trendy, burb of Port Moody. With $380,000 to spend, Dunne is seeking a two-bedroom condominium with a minimum of 750 square feet. He would like something that is less then six years old, has a balcony and is located in the central part of the city close to all the shopping, dining and hiking trails along Burrard Inlet.

Here are three properties Dunne should look at.

**RYAN DELUCA IS A REAL ESTATE AGENT WITH SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY CANADA**

CONTRIBUTED

▶ This new unit boasts modern finishings.

**303-400 Capilano Rd., Port Moody**
**$375,000**
Right in the heart of Dunne's prime search area is this two-bedroom, two-bathroom, 992-square-foot unit in Onni's Suter Brooke development. Built in 2008, this new highrise boasts all the modern finishings Dunne is looking for. With stainless steel appliances, a gas range, granite counters, and in suite laundry, this unit is move-in ready and requires no work to be done. With a large balcony, barbecuing will be a breeze and eating out will be just as easy at the many restaurants and pubs right outside the front door. Listing agent Candice Cappellaro of Royal LePage Coronation West also explains that ownership includes use of the indoor pool, spa, sauna, media room and much more.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Enjoy the open-concept floor plan.

**206-801 Klahanie Dr., Port Moody**
**$323,900**
Well below Dunne's price cap comes this fantastic find in the master-planned Polygon community of Klahanie. Situated within his preferred neighbourhood, this two-bedroom, two-bathroom unit has 818 square feet of living space in an open-concept floor plan. A large balcony with green space and water views are not too common in a low-rise building, but are a definite bonus. Modern gas range and appliances, along with an electric fireplace and hardwood floors finish off uniting all of Dunne's requirements. All Klahanie residents have full access to the 15,000-square-foot Canoe club with outdoor pool, hot tub, theatre room and guest suites, according to listing agent Judith A. Hawke of Prudential Sterling Realty.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Stunning views are featured in this unit.

**2209-651 Nootka Way, Port Moody**
**$329,900**
Right in the heart of central Port Moody, also in the Klahanie community, is this two-bedroom, two-bathroom unit in the Sahalee highrise. Built in 2008, this concrete tower has its own gym facility in addition to use of the 15,000-square-foot Canoe Club amenity building. With the balcony Dunne wants, and 750 square feet of living space, this unit has stunning views to be enjoyed, according to listing agent Anar Janmohamed of Sutton Group West Coast Realty. The condo also sits across from Burrard Inlet with the West Coast Express and running trails just a quick walk away.

# HOUSING STARTS BOOST FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

## BITS & BITES

PETER SIMPSON
FOR METRO

According to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. (CMHC), multi-family housing starts continue to rise in the Metro Vancouver region (up 39 per cent), while single-detached starts remain below last year's total (down 24 per cent).

Total Metro Vancouver starts for the January-to-September period were 13,260, up 19 per cent from the 11,137 starts recorded during the same nine-month period last year. Vancouver led the pack with 2,862 starts, while Surrey (2,530) and Richmond (2,141) were a close second and third, respectively. The increase in housing starts generated an additional 5,944 full-time jobs for one year.

Let's hope the uncertainty created by a lack of clarity on HST transition rules doesn't impede this fine progress.

**U.S. foreclosures**
American lenders foreclosed on 196,530 properties during the third quarter of this year. Meanwhile, the U.S. national unemployment rate for 20 to 24 year olds was nearly 15 per cent in September, higher in some states. All this has likely helped to fuel the civil unrest that is pervasive in the U.S. these days.

**"To help homeowners make informed decisions, the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association ... is presenting an evening home renovation seminar Nov. 22 in Vancouver ... For details on this free seminar, visit gvhba.org."**

**Home renovations**
With more than $4.4 billion being spent on home renovation, improvement and repair this year, and a similar amount expected in 2012, careful planning is required to demystify the renovation process.

To help homeowners make informed decisions, the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association — in partnership with BC Hydro, CMHC and FortisBC — is presenting an evening home renovation seminar Nov. 22 in Vancouver. Expert presenters will guide homeowners through the various stages of the renovation process. For details on this free seminar, visit gvhba.org.

**Chinese buyers**
Chinese homebuyers are a major force in Metro Vancouver, but we are not alone in attracting their interest and cash. The U.S. National Association of Realtors reports that buyers from China make up nine per cent of the $41 billion in international sales of American homes. Only Canada, at an impressive 23 per cent, is higher. The most popular states are Arizona, California, Florida and Texas.

Those numbers from China could soon jump. Next month, North American real estate fairs will be held in five major Chinese cities. Attendees will learn details from experts about property purchase laws, emigration, education and investment opportunities available in Canada and the U.S.

**PETER SIMPSON IS THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE GREATER VANCOUVER HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION. EMAIL PETER@GVHBA.ORG.**

# PARC RIVIERA DEVOTED TO GREEN, OPEN SPACES

## GREEN IS THE COLOUR OF LUXURY IN RICHMOND'S NEW RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY.

There's a reason apartment buyers in Vancouver and elsewhere are willing to pay a premium for homes with access to tiny rooftop gardens and green spaces — they're beautiful, therapeutic and good for us in every way. Plants, trees and parks produce fresh air, help absorb sound pollution, and they provide a fantastic place to unwind after a long workday.

The Parc Riviera home development in North Richmond is designed to bring nature to the balconies and doorsteps of its inhabitants at an affordable price, with almost five acres of parks and 4,000 ft. of dyke trail right on-site.

Prices start around $270,000, and most of the 1-3 bedroom condos and townhomes in the development will look out over the Fraser River and North Shore mountains, some of the best views in the city.

An astounding 65 per cent of the first phase, which is set to begin selling in October, will be devoted to green and open spaces, said Dave Bauman, marketing director for Parc Riviera.

The apartments will range from 519-1,300 sq. ft., and the townhomes will be about 1,100 sq. ft. The nine-foot ceilings will let in lots of light and give the homes a sense of space, and the over-sized balconies will fit four around a table, plus a barbecue, for a more private enjoyment of the view, said Bauman.

The home amenities make the indoors almost as appealing as the outdoors. They include solid quartz countertops, hardwood floors and high-end stainless steel GE Café appliances including a five-burner gas range.

The development's cutting-edge geoexchange system will help provide efficient heating in the winter and cooling in the summer, and will help residents cut down their utility use. "You can save some money and it's environmentally responsible," said Bauman.

Both developers, Dava Developments and Oris Consulting, consider sustainable living a priority in their projects, and both have a proven track record in Richmond.

## HOMES

**Selling:** October

**Apartment size:** 519-1,300 sq. ft.

**Townhouse size:** ~ 1,100 sq. ft.

**Number of bedrooms:** 1-3

**Prices:** From $277,900

**Special features:** River and Mountain views, geothermal heating/cooling, 9-ft. ceilings, hardwood flooring

**Developers:** Dava Developments and Oris Consulting

**For more info:** parcriviera.com

# A MASTER-PLANNED COMMUNITY

Parc Riviera was explicitly designed with a community feel in mind, said David Bauman, marketing director for the new Richmond housing development. Bauman often mans the showroom and says the social focus of Parc Riviera definitely makes an impact on visitors. "The fact that it's a master-planned community is resonating with people as they walk in the door," said Bauman.

Though Parc Riviera will have five acres of public green space, certain exclusive features will help create a nucleus for the community. The standalone private recreation centre, Club Riviera, has had special appeal for many potential buyers, said Bauman. It will offer a pool, a fitness centre, indoor and outdoor lounge areas and other features exclusively accessible to residents.

Anybody will be able to enjoy trails, kids' play areas, a picnic area, public art, a stage for community performances, tennis courts and sunset seating on the master-planned community's 20 acres of waterfront.

The full development will also include commercial space and even daycare, but should residents need to venture from the oasis, they can easily access shopping nearby along the Bridgeport corridor and the many shops, restaurants and services of downtown Richmond aren't far. Bridgeport SkyTrain Station along the Canada Line is just a 10-minute walk away.

## PUBLIC ART

The community wouldn't be complete without art for all to enjoy. The Parc Riviera team is in the process of commissioning public art, which will dot the green space. And they recently acquired their first piece — a playfully outsized stainless steel raindrop called Water #10, by Chinese sculptor Jun Ren.

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DAVA DEVELOPMENTS ORIS

CONTRIBUTED

# Good karma

▶ Interior finishing quality is one of the items Bosa Properties is known for, says Daryl Simpson, vice-president of Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties.

## Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties will donate $1,000 to the BlueSky Foundation for each home purchased in new Viceroy highrise

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

Wherever you live, a great community is key to making a house or apartment feel like a home.

That's the idea behind the new Viceroy highrise in New Westminster, a joint development by Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties. Except they are going above and beyond offering buyers a place in the community — they are empowering buyers to help build the community.

For every home purchased, Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties donate $1,000 to the BlueSky Foundation, which will total $188,000 for the whole development. Then, owners will have a say which local charities will receive the funds.

They are especially focused on children's charities and charities that provide low-income family and housing support, explained Daryl Simpson, senior vice-president of Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties.

"The intention is to find charitable organizations and individuals that are off the radar, so to speak. They're not the big charities that regularly receive funding," Simpson explained. "They might be homegrown groups ... that fill a massive need but are significantly underfunded."

Viceroy is well on its way to living up to the $188,000 goal. Since apartments started selling in May, Viceroy has attracted a surprising number of buyers from relatively far afield, said Simpson.

Many buyers have lived in other parts of Metro Vancouver for years, and are now discovering Uptown New Westminster for the first time, he said.

"Funnily enough, it's a neighbourhood a lot of people don't know even exists," he said. "It's a bit of a jewel."

Located around 5th Avenue and 7th Street near the site of the original Woodwards building, Viceroy is surrounded by history and community. Public transit, grocery stores, banks, restaurants, and Queens Park are all within walking distance.

And the views from the 24-floor highrise will be spectacular, with landmarks including the new Port Mann Bridge, the Pattullo Bridge, New Westminster's Queens Park, and the North Shore mountains.

Interiors are high quality, too, said Simpson. "Interior finishing quality is one of the things Bosa is known for. We like to think we put more inside the home than a lot of other developers."

With that come stone countertops, quality laminate flooring, and European Bosch appliances.

The building has a fully equipped gym, a resident caretaker, a shared guest suite for visitors, secure underground parking, and a lounge overlooking a reflecting pond.

The BlueSky Foundation will be accepting requests for charitable funding via blueskyproperties.ca throughout Viceroy's construction.

### Meet the condo

- **DEVELOPERS**: Bosa Properties and BlueSky Properties
- **PRICES**: Starting at $179,900
- **UNITS**: Studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments
- **LOCATION**: Uptown New Westminster near 7th Street and 5th Avenue
- **SET FOR COMPLETION**: Summer 2013
- **WEBSITE**: liveatviceroy.com

CONTRIBUTED

▶ The new Viceroy highrise in New Westminster.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

SOLD

**1791 Grover Ave., Coquitlam**
**LISTED**: $749,900
**SOLD**: $821,000
This six-bedroom, two-bathroom home in the suburb of Coquitlam boasts 2,876 square feet split between the upper and lower levels. Located on a 9,112-square-foot lot, this home has had upwards of $50,000 in recent renovations. The downstairs two-bedroom unit has its own separate entrance and in suite laundry. Listing agent Herb Johnstone of Royal LePage Coronation West adds that included in the renovations are a new gourmet kitchen with granite counters, a centre island and maple hardwood floors. These open on to an oversized half-covered sundeck, perfect for relaxing and entertaining.

**1106-638 Beach Ave., Vancouver**
**LISTED** : $480,000
**SOLD** : $470,000
This 644-square-foot, one-bedroom, one-bathroom unit in Yaletown's Icon tower is located on the waterfront across from Granville Island. Built in 2006, this unit comes complete with air conditioning, a rarity in the Vancouver condo market. High ceilings, granite counters, stainless steel appliances and floor-to-ceiling windows finish off the space. Realtor Nicolas Blanchette of Sutton Group West Coast Realty says, "It's easy to maintain an amazing lifestyle with an indoor semi-Olympic swimming pool, steam and sauna, concierge, and theatre room right in the building."

**TH119-1288 Marinaside Cres., Vancouver**
**LISTED** : $898,000
**SOLD** $870,000
Located on the seawall of False Creek near the marina, this two-bedroom, two-bathroom townhouse is spread out in more than 1,200 square feet of living space. Fully renovated, this unit in the 1997 Crestmark 1 has a large balcony with parking and storage included. Stunning pond and courtyard views along with shopping and dining at your doorstep, this home sold in less than three weeks. Sharon Bardsley of Sutton West Coast Realty also mentions the building is in the midst of having the roof replaced by the proactive strata council, which will give owners years of use while eliminating any assessments for leaks that can spring from old roofs.

RYAN DELUCA

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DUO
AT PORT ROYAL

# Hammering out your plans

## Taking the next step to improve your home or condominium ◗ Tackle design process first, expert says

JON TATTRIE
FOR METRO

Metro's homebuyers Joe Stanton and Liam and Madeleine Rushton have both purchased a new home. Now they are talking about renovations and trying to determine how to go about getting them done.

When Stanton, a 42-year-old banking executive, closed the deal on a downtown condo, he knew the first thing he would do when he took possession was upgrade the bathroom.

The Rushtons, who just found out they are expecting twins, are keen to have a family room in their new home in the suburbs. They definitely have the space to add a room … now all they need is the know-how.

Moe Abbas, owner of Ottawa General Contractors, says the first step in any renovation is the design process itself. You need to spell out exactly what you want to do in order to get a good quote for any project.

"The best is to go with a design and build company," he says. "Then I would call a few contractors to get a rough idea of how much it would cost."

The Rushtons' project will cost about $100,000 while Stanton's bathroom will run $10,000.

The Rushtons hire an architect for detailed plans of their sunroom.

Stanton plans out his bathroom himself, using his own ideas and gathering information from bathroom retailers and renovation sources including books, magazines and websites.

GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

Abbas recommends padding the quoted price by five to 10 per cent. Part is for the normal overrun of a project, but also because the Rushtons and Stanton will likely change plans.

"People always want to add things while they're renovating — you might as well do the siding, you might as well change the windows — you see what I mean," he says.

"It's very rare that an addition comes in at the price it was quoted at."

Four months later, the Rushtons wave goodbye to the last contractor and spend their first Saturday in the new sunroom.

Stanton has an easier path to his swank washroom. He has to tick off the same boxes — cost estimate, design and permission — but everything is much quicker. The design only takes two hours, as does the estimate.

A month after he first decided to renovate his bathroom, Stanton slips into his claw-foot tub.

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# Smart renovation trends

JO CALVERT
FOR METRO

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

▶ Everybody wants an island in the kitchen, experts say about home renovation trends.

Home reno trends may come and go, but changes to the kitchen and bathroom still provide the greatest payback potential (75 to 100 per cent), according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

"You always get your money back on kitchens," agrees Murray Cutler, marketing manager of Installed Sales at Home Hardware. "And bathrooms are absolutely huge."

For first-time buyers, "functionality comes first," says Cutler, to stretch their storage, reno budget and resale value. Choosing white or neutral appliances, fixtures and hard-surface finishes allows eventual changes of decor, easily and inexpensively, using rich hits of colour in furniture, accessories and paint.

### What's cooking in the kitchen?

In kitchens, Cutler says, "everybody wants an island." Great for food prep, an island also provides a place for guests or kids to perch on bistro chairs alongside, and carry on a conversation or do homework while dinner is cooking.

A big punch for a small payout is often added by upgrading cabinet hardware and installing budget-friendly high-definition faux granite and marble countertops.

Ceramic, glass and travertine tiles are popular and practical, while trendy self-adhesive metallic-tile backsplashes are easy to install for the DIYer.

And everyone wants energy saving appliances — stainless steel is holding strong — for their environmental and economic benefits.

### Bathroom ideas

Most young buyers don't splash out on lavish, spa-style bathrooms, but are replacing old fixtures with new, efficient models — usually white.

"Many are taking out the tub altogether and substituting a walk-in shower, instead," Cutler says.

Tower storage units are added and a pedestal sink is replaced with a vanity packed with shelving under the sink. Upscale mirrors, faucets and cabinet hardware add a luxe look quickly and inexpensively.

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AT WINDSOR GATE

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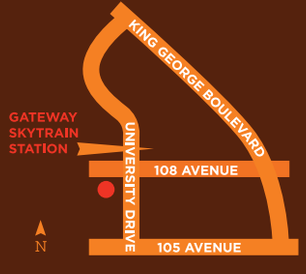


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# Fall for sophisticated pops of colour

**Spicy autumn colours are all the trend ◗ Add small kicks of deep purple, brick red, rich pinks or burnt orange**

## DESIGN CENTRE

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

As we prepare to welcome fall into our homes, we can officially leave the light, breezy tones of summer behind and turn to the deeper shades of the upcoming winter season.

The classic colours associated with autumn are burnt oranges, brick reds, dark plums and deep cranberries.

Bright, crisp colours feel less fashionable now and the colours of fall are dramatic, strong and exotically sophisticated.

Some may recognize these trendy tones as those that defined decor of the '70s and '80s (remember rust corduroy sofas and E-ZBrick faux walls?) but what goes around rarely comes back the same way.

Deep reds and rusty oranges have reappeared in more formal textures like silk, rather than the casual corduroy and heavy fabrics of their past lives.

Warm greys and cool taupes are still the ultimate neutral, but pops of spiced colour on a focal point or accessory are fun ways to bring in colour without a major commitment.

Adding small kicks of deep purple, brick red, rich pinks or dark orange to an accent wall, patterned pillow, glass lamp, or two side chairs in a living room can make a big impact with the trends.

Beyond walls and ceilings, furniture can also be updated with a dash of drama.

The interior of an armoire or china cabinet could be painted or wallpapered to leave just a hint of colour and texture peeking through.

High-gloss provides sheen and shine, allowing hits of colour to really stand out while adding glamour. .

### Come see me!

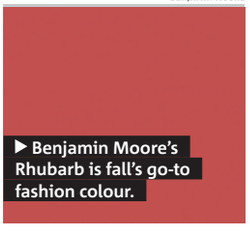
**I'll be speaking on the main stage at the International Home Show on Oct. 27, 28 and 29.**

- **Get some advice:** I'll also be answering your decorating questions one-on-one Friday and Saturday, so bring your floorplans, photos and samples along.
- **For more information and tickets,** visit international-homeshow.ca.

WEST ELM

▶ Kilim upholstered sofa adds fall's rich purple and red in an exotic way. Kilim Sofa, West Elm

BENJAMIN MOORE



▶ Benjamin Moore's Rhubarb is fall's go-to fashion colour.

BENJAMIN MOORE

▶ An accent wall painted Benjamin Moore's Rhubarb can warm up a neutral space.

POTTERY BARN

▶ Add colour to your space with exotic accessories like genuine Kantha throws, Pottery Barn.

# Haunted house chic

SALLY MORRIS
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

Lifestyle expert Kelly Moore offers easy tips for eerie entertaining this Halloween.

ISTOCK

▶ Give your treat-or-treaters something to remember.

**Mummify your chairs**
"Using tea bags and warm water, stain several rolls of white gauze to make it look like they've been buried underground for years. Simply wrap the chairs with the gauze and secure it in place using poster strips."

**Create a centrepiece with freaky literature**
"Stack scary old books such as Frankenstein and Dracula on tables and benches in the home. Add a few candles on top of the stack to add height."

**Invoke abandoned mansion chic** "Stretch out thin layers of cotton and secure it in place using Command mini hooks. Then add plastic spiders and other creepy crawlers."

**Make eerie mood lighting**
"Cut Halloween shapes, such as cats and bats, out of black construction paper. Then adhere them to the inside of an inexpensive lampshade using poster strips. When the lamp is turned on, spooky shadows will illuminate the room."

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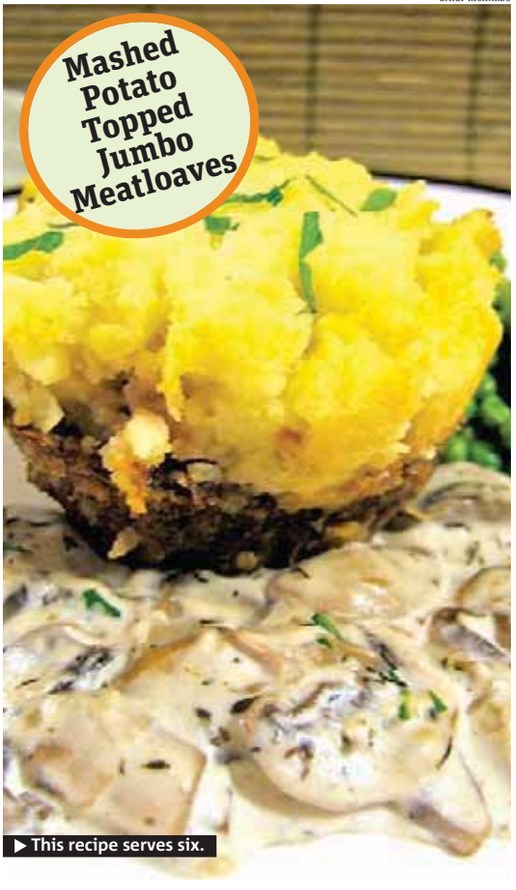
Calling all potato lovers — Kathleen Sloan-McIntosh has just the book for you. 300 Best Potato Recipes (Robert Rose, 2011) boasts a collection that runs the gamut from instructing on classics — the perfect mashed, baked, roasted and fried potatoes — to introducing innovative and modern dishes.

Also included is a history of potatoes as well as a chapter on everything you need to know about hundreds of potato varieties.

Enjoy recipes such as: African Sweet Potato and Peanut Soup, Mum's Potato Breads, Green Chile Curry with New Potatoes, and Dark Chocolate & Orange Potato Cheesecake.

# The art of mashed potatoes

EMILY RICHARDS




▶ This recipe serves six.

**▶ These recipes prove the side dish can be the star of the show ▶ Try topping meatloaves with the starch**

## DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Sometimes, meat isn't your only leftover. If you have a pot of leftover mashed potatoes, try these Mashed Potato Topped Jumbo Meatloaves.

**Ingredients:**

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) butter
- 2 shallots, finely chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- Half yellow pepper, diced
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano leaves
- ½ tsp (2 mL) dried thyme
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- ½ cup (125 mL) beef broth
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) seasoned dry breadcrumbs
- ¼ cup (50 mL) freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Pinch each salt, pepper
- 1 lb (500 g) lean ground beef
- 2 cups (500 mL) leftover mashed potatoes

**Mushroom Sauce**

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) butter
- 1 pkg (8 oz) button mushrooms, thinly sliced
- ½ tsp (2 mL) dried thyme
- Pinch each salt, pepper
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) all purpose flour
- ½ cup (125 mL) each beef broth and 18 % table cream

**Preparation:**

1. In bowl, mash potatoes and ¼ cup (50 mL) of the broth; set aside.
2. In skillet over medium heat, melt butter and cook shallots, garlic, pepper, oregano and thyme for about 3 mins. or until softened. Let cool slightly.
3. In bowl, combine egg, remaining broth, breadcrumbs, cheese, salt and pepper. Add beef and shallot mixture and mix with until combined.
4. Divide mixture among 6 lightly sprayed jumbo muffin tins and press down slightly to flatten. Top each with about 1/3 cup (75 mL) of the mashed potatoes. Bake in centre of 375 F (190 C) oven 35 mins. or until meat thermometer reaches an internal temperature of 160 F (75 C) and meat is no longer pink inside.
5. Sauce: Return skillet to medium high heat and melt butter. Cook mushrooms, thyme, salt and pepper 10 mins. or until liquid evaporates. Stir in flour and cook, 1 min. Pour in broth and cream and bring to a simmer. Simmer 3 mins. or until slightly thickened. Serve with meatloaves. **EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

**▶ Stray from stir-fry tradition by using potatoes instead of noodles or rice ▶ Employ fall-inspired ingredients**

**Preparation:**

1. In skillet over medium-high, cook bacon until crisp, about 5 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer bacon to a paper towel-lined plate to drain, leaving fat in skillet. Over medium-high, add pork strips and sear to brown, about 2 minutes. Transfer pork to a plate; set aside.
2. Reduce heat to medium; add onion, sage and cinnamon. Cook for 5 minutes or until onion begins to brown at edges. Add carrots and brussels sprouts and sauté for 5 to 6 minutes or until starting to brown. Add broth, then cover and cook for 10 minutes.
3. Return pork to pan, add cranberries, then cook, uncovered, for another 5 to 6 minutes or until pork has a hint of pink in centre. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve over mashed potatoes, crumbling bacon on top.

EMILY RICHARDS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Ingredients:**

- 250 g (8 oz) side bacon strips
- 340 g (12 oz) pork tenderloin, cut into thin strips
- 1 red onion, sliced
- 5 ml (1 tsp) dried sage leaves
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cinnamon
- 500 g (1 lb) carrots, peeled and cut in 1-cm (1/2-inch) chunks
- 500 g (1 lb) brussels sprouts, quartered
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chicken broth
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) dried cranberries
- Salt and black pepper
- Mashed potatoes, to serve

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# Make them say ‘cheese’

## Roasted Fall Squash & Cheddar Bread Pudding makes a great side dish

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ This side dish serves six to eight.

**Preparation:**

1 Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). In bowl, toss squash with 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil, thyme, kosher salt. Place on baking sheet and bake until tender, 25 mins. Remove and set aside, then reduce oven temp. to 180 C (350 F).

2 In bowl, whisk eggs; add cream, wine, mustard and season with salt. Fold bread pieces into egg mix. Soak 30 mins, stir occasionally.

3 In pot over medium-high heat, add 30 ml (2 tbsp) oil; sauté shallots until soft. Add kale, cover and cook for 3 mins. Uncover, stir until kale is wilts.

4 Butter 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) baking dish. Using slotted spoon, transfer half of bread from egg mix to baking dish. Spoon half kale over bread. Spoon half squash over top, sprinkle with half cheese. Repeat with remaining bread, kale, squash and cheese. Pour remaining egg mix over bread pudding.

5 Cover with foil and bake for 20 minutes. Then remove foil and bake for another 20 minutes until custard is set and bread feels springy to touch.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CHEF LYNN CRAWFORD

**Ingredients:**

- 1 l (4 cups) diced peeled butternut squash
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 sprigs thyme
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) kosher salt, plus extra for seasoning
- 6 large eggs
- 500 ml (2 cups) heavy cream
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) dry white wine
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) sweet and smoky mustard
- 2.5 l (10 cups) day-old sourdough bread pieces
- 4 large shallots, chopped
- 1 l (4 cups) kale, chopped
- 500 ml (2 cups) grated old cheddar cheese

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## Events

**There's plenty of hair-raising events to keep you busy this Halloween.**

- **Stanley Park Ghost Train:** Stanley Park's Miniature Train transforms itself into the Ghost Train each year for a magical ride through the nighttime forest. Thursday, 6-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 6-11 p.m., Sunday and Monday, 6-10 p.m. vancouver.ca/parks/events/ghosttrain/index.htm.
- **Pumpkin Patch at Richmond Country Farms:** Home to the area's most famous pumpkin patch, plus a corn maze, animals, and more. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. countryfarms.ca/
- **Vancouver Haunted Trolley Tours:** Aimed at visitors 13 and older. Tours last 2½ hours and run through to Monday, Oct. 31. Pre-registration is required. vancouvertrolley.com/seasonal_tours_halloween.php.
- **Fright Nights at the PNE:** The PNE's Playland amusement park becomes a thrill park, with multiple haunted houses. Through to Monday, Oct. 31. pne.ca/fright-nights. METRO

JUPITERIMAGES/BRAND X PICTURES/THINKSTOCK

# Go Mad over vintage

### Costumes inspired by TV shows, such as Mad Men and Pan Am, will prove to be popular this year

STEPHANIE ORFORD
FOR METRO

Halloween is the only time of year when it's acceptable to dress like Lady Gaga, so we say throw your sense of taste to the winds and let loose. Whether you craft your costume from scratch or buy it pre-made, here are some suggestions from the zeitgeist and the 2011 Value Village Halloween Shopping Survey to help get your creative juices flowing:

**Classics revisited**

Movies in 2011 are crawling with some serious Halloween costume fodder. Movie makers this year had a field day with pirates, vampires, wizards, mutants and robots. Watch for twists on these classic costumes, inspired by top-grossing franchises released this year including Pirates of the Caribbean, True Blood, Twilight, Harry Potter, X-Men, and Transformers. New versions of kids' classics Winnie the Pooh, The Smurfs and The Muppets will be popular choices for all ages.

**Reality TV**

Watch costume stores this year for sparkly Dancing With the Stars garb, and, as fascination with Jersey Shore shows no signs of slowing, a rash of leopard print and Snookie wigs as well as gold chains plus abbearing tank tops á la The Situation.

**Vintage looks**

Or take advantage of the popular sexy mid-century looks that have seeped into TV and fashion this fall. You will probably partake in a glass of witch's brew with more than a few impeccably dressed Don Drapers and Joan Hollways á la Mad Men, or alongside '60s air hostesses channelling Christina Ricci's new show Pan Am.

▶ Christina Ricci as Maggie Ryan in Pan Am.

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Through UNICEF's efforts, children receive the education they need to pursue their dreams.

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# THE ORANGE BOX GOES DIGITAL

## OCTOBER 31 IS NATIONAL UNICEF DAY

For most of us, the orange UNICEF box was a symbol of Halloween, right alongside loot bags, make-up and vampire teeth. The campaign behind it, 'Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF,' raised more than $100 million since it began in Canada in 1955, helping children around the world to live and learn better.

Today, there are still millions of children in need, and UNICEF is helping them in new ways. October 31, National UNICEF Day, is now the culmination of a month-long fundraising program, open to anyone who wishes to donate, no matter where you live. The orange box is now virtual. With one visit to www.unicef.ca/oct31, you can make a secure donation in seconds. And as a special thank you to Canadians, you can also enter to win a $5,000 travel voucher, courtesy of Intrepid Travel.

More than ever, your donation matters. Around the world, 68 million primary-school-age children are out of school. UNICEF, supported entirely by voluntary donations, helps ensure that every child—regardless of gender, ethnicity, background or circumstances—receives a quality education, free from discrimination. This is critical, not only for the children themselves, but for the families they help support.

UNICEF seeks to raise $2 million for these kids between now and October 31—a sum that will help purchase educational supplies for 5 million students and would-be students. This money gets spent on things most of us take for granted, like workbooks, textbooks and other school supplies. Just 10 dollars can provide pencils and exercise books for 20 students, so children can write and draw. A little less than 90 dollars buys a child a bicycle, allowing him or her to get to school faster—or fetch clean water.

Education is more than a universal right for these kids. It's a tool that helps them break cycles of poverty, disease and social inequity. It empowers them to become the global citizens they're destined to be.

By donating online, you join thousands of other Canadians in continuing the tradition of the little orange box. Only now, you can do it quicker and more securely, any day of the week, from wherever you are.

## BAYAN YAMMOUT SPENT 17 YEARS IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT

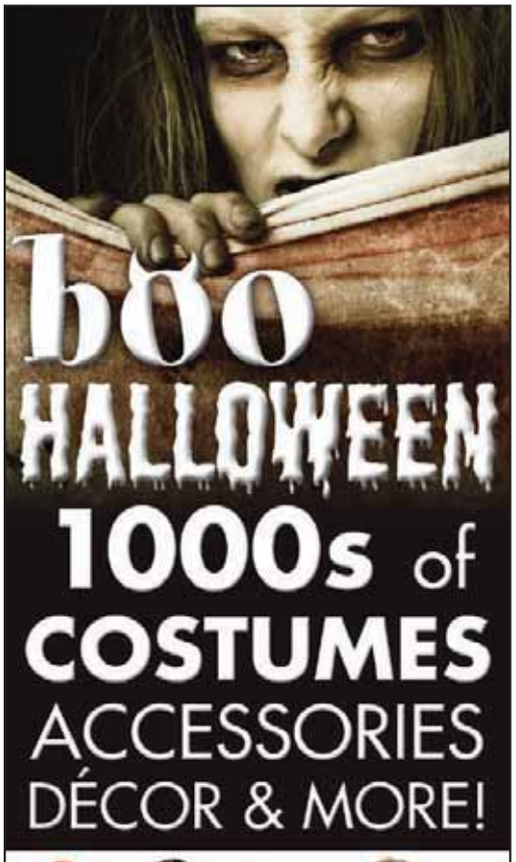
Born in Beirut, Lebanon, during her country's civil war, Bayan learned first-hand the suffering children face in these situations. She lived in bomb shelters, searched for water—even lost family members in the fighting.

But today, Bayan is a school teacher in Canada. She has a husband and children of her own, and speaks four languages. Between the horror of war and the peace she now enjoys, she found hope. UNICEF helped her do it.

"Life is confusing for a child in a conflict-zone," Bayan recalls. "You might share a shelter with up to one hundred people, for weeks at a time. Your wish is that, one day, you can sleep safely in your own bed."

"One day UNICEF gave us paper and pencils. I remember sitting with them, drawing for hours. These were tools for our education, but through them, I could finally express how I felt."

Her struggles long behind her, Bayan now works proudly with UNICEF Canada, sharing her story and helping others see the value of education, here and abroad.



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**Quoted**

**"Ed Stefanski embodies everything I was hoping to attain."**

TORONTO GENERAL MANAGER BRYAN COLANGELO. THE RAPTORS NAMED ED STEFANSKI AS THE TEAM'S EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS YESTERDAY. STEFANSKI PREVIOUSLY WORKED IN THE FRONT OFFICE FOR BOTH THE PHILADELPHIA 76ERS AND THE NEW JERSEY NETS.

RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Vancouver goalie Cory Schneider looks to cover as teammate Dan Hamhuis and St. Louis forward Alexander Steen battle for the puck.

# Still searching for a spark in Vancouver

## Canucks lose dull one at Rogers Arena in second game of back-to-back

Alexander Steen scored twice and goaltender Brian Elliott made 32 stops as the St. Louis Blues defeated the Vancouver Canucks 3-0 last night.

Elliott, who signed a free-agent contract as a backup with St. Louis this summer, improved his record to 4-0-0. It was his first shutout of the season and 10th of his career.

The victory improved the Blues' record to 5-4-0. St. Louis has won three consecutive games, all with Elliott starting.

Patrik Berglund scored the other St. Louis goal later in the third period.

| BLUES | CANUCKS |
|---|---|
| 3 | 0 |

Kevin Shattenkirk had two assists.

Vancouver goaltender Cory Schneider faced 31 shots. The Stanley Cup finalist Canucks lost their second game in as many nights and saw their record drop to 4-5-1.

The sellout crowd of 18,860 grew restless after just one goal and a single penalty called after two periods. The Canucks went on to outshoot St. Louis 17-6 in the third.

Elliott wasn't overworked for most of the game but still made some big stops.

He blocked a point-blank shot from Alex Burrows early in the match, then stopped Chris Higgins on a three-on-one later. He also stoned Daniel Sedin on a rebound.

Schneider played well in his fourth start of the season, adding more fire to the heated debate over whether he or Roberto Luongo should see more ice time.

Schneider looked confident in net and always seemed to be in position, making two particularly nice saves on Matt D'Agostini and Evgeny Grachev.

The Canucks lost 3-2 in Edmonton Tuesday night. Luongo started that game but was pulled after allowing three goals on four shots in a five-minute span in the second period.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Series on hold in soggy St. Louis

Colby Lewis and his Texas teammates casually tossed a ball in left field, trying to avoid the tarp and any anxiety about being so close to the World Series championship.

On this day, the only winner was the weather.

Game 6 was postponed yesterday because of an accurate wet forecast, delaying the Rangers' bid to clinch their first championship. Ahead 3-2, they can close out the St. Louis Cardinals tonight. It's likely to be clear with temperatures around 12 C at Busch Stadium.

"We're not getting antsy, we're not getting ahead of ourselves. We just have to wait," Texas manager Ron Washington said.

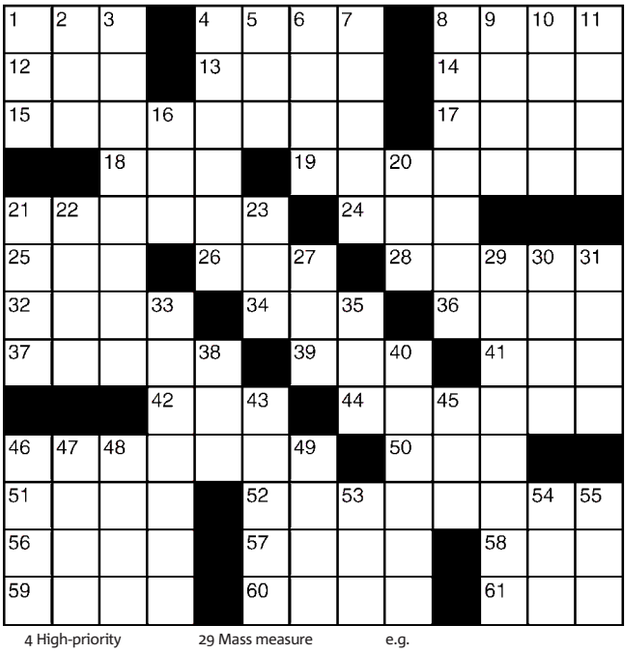
Lewis is set to start against Jaime Garcia. If there's a Game 7 tomorrow night, it'll be Matt Harrison for Texas, while the possibility looms that ace Chris Carpenter could pitch on three days' rest for St. Louis.

"It's already been asked about Carp," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "I was told by Carp that he would be ready to go."

The two-day gap is the longest at the World Series since 1989, when the Bay Area earthquake left the Athletics and Giants idle for 11 days.

"It's just a rainout, that's it," Texas star Michael Young said. "I don't know if people think we're going to sit in our hotel rooms all night biting our nails. We're going to get something to eat, get some rest and be ready to go." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Crossword



**Across**

1 Sweet potato
4 Wyoming neighbor
8 Medicinal amount
12 Id counterpart
13 The Eternal City
14 Physical
15 Baby picture?
17 Options list
18 Raw rock
19 Shenanigans
21 Those who shun animal products
24 Yuletide beverage
25 Listener
26 Car : jalopy :: boat : —
28 Hayseed
32 Memo acronym
34 — de plume
36 Queen of Carthage
37 Madagascar critter
39 Crony
41 Cover
42 Storm center
44 "In Cold Blood" author
46 Rues
50 Huge
51 Berry touted as a superfood
52 Type of 3-D image
56 Collins or Donahue
57 Eastern bigwig
58 Hearty brew
59 Carry
60 Agts.
61 Speedometer stat

**Down**

1 "Of course"
2 Past
3 Decorative lettering
4 High-priority
5 Anderson's "High — "
6 Oriental nursemaid
7 Confine
8 Nearly divine one
9 The yoke's on them
10 Foundered
11 Ostriches' kin
16 Man-mouse link
20 Bliss
21 — scallopini
22 Relaxation
23 Baltimore newspaper
27 Jazzy style
29 Mass measure
30 Tend texts
31 Source of riches
33 Childish
35 Buddy
38 Catcher's place
40 Hercules had 12
43 Old anesthetic
45 Glutton
46 Engrossed
47 Reverberate
48 Pace
49 Unspecified amount
53 Back talk
54 Matterhorn, e.g.
55 Expression of disinterest

▶ Yesterday's answer

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | L | F | | M | E | A | T | | S | L | E | D | | |
| C | O | E | | E | R | G | O | | H | A | L | O | | |
| T | I | T | | D | R | A | W | B | A | C | K | S | | |
| S | N | A | F | U | | | | N | I | L | | | | |
| | | | I | S | A | S | | N | O | M | A | D | | |
| C | U | T | B | A | C | K | S | | M | I | M | E | | |
| O | N | E | | E | I | E | I | O | | S | O | N | | |
| U | T | A | H | | S | E | T | B | A | C | K | S | | |
| P | O | L | A | R | | T | U | T | U | | | | | |
| | | | W | O | O | | | U | K | A | S | E | | |
| K | I | C | K | B | A | C | K | S | | W | O | N | | |
| E | D | I | E | | F | R | E | E | | L | U | V | | |
| N | O | I | R | | S | O | A | R | | S | P | Y | | |

*For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca*

## Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | | 6 | | 3 | | 8 | |
| 6 | | | 9 | | 8 | | | 3 |
| | 9 | | | 2 | | | 7 | |
| | | 4 | | | | 5 | | |
| 9 | 8 | | | | | | 3 | 1 |
| | | 6 | | | | 2 | | |
| | 6 | | | 9 | | | 5 | |
| 8 | | | 1 | | 4 | | | 7 |
| | 7 | | 2 | | 5 | | 1 | |

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| 8 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 7 |
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 3 |

## Send a KISS

**You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.**

*Dream Partner,*
*I have one Regret ---- Regret not having believed in us ; .... XOXOXOXO - you only know what you have until you lost it .... Are you lost or just dissapointed or scared again ???? nothing is impossible ; Shall we ? :)*
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*Sow low,*
*We have had a rough time last month, but we made it through together. I hope we stay strong and can work through everything. There has been huge improvement in our relationship. I love u so muchy. Happy 1 year and 10 months.* **SOW POW**

*Handsome,*
*It's been years since I've last seen you and you still sneak into my thoughts. You are my only "what if" but not my regret, hope you found your good place as I am finding mine.* **FT. SASK GIRL**

Today
11°/8°
Mainly sunny
Friday
12°/8°
Rain
90%
The Weather Network
Download WeatherEye to your smartphone.
TWN incorporates MSC data

## Today's horoscope

**♈ Aries March 21-April 20** Avoid other people's quarrels today because you could find yourself drawn in deeper than you'd like.

**♉ Taurus April 21-May 21** It's not like you to seek approval but for some reason you crave the support of partners today.

**♊ Gemini May 22-June 21** At some point today, you'll realize you must stop what you are doing and reassess priorities. Be selective.

**♋ Cancer June 22-July 22** You don't have to be cynical today but you do have to watch out for Number One – that's you.

**♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23** You don't have to face each and every situation alone. There are people you can turn to for support and advice.

**♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22** Don't let your feelings get the better of you today. Above all, don't get taken in by a tale of woe.

**♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23** A lot is going on in your world but don't let it distract you from your main aim: improving your cash flow.

**♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22** It's OK to be angry with someone who has let you down but it's not OK to let it gnaw at you relentlessly.

**♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21** Your confidence may be at a low ebb but it is only a passing phase.

**♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20** You don't have to go along with what other people suggest. You have a mind of your own.

**♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18** The Sun in Scorpio at this time of year can either make or break your reputation, depending on how clear your aims are.

**♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20.** Any offer that sounds too good to be true most likely is a trick or an illusion. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Caption contest

NATHAN DENETTE/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

PHELAN M. EBENHACK/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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